

Meacher urges MPs' gesture of solidarity with strikers

Labour set up fighting fund to aid seamen

● Labour leaders, in a gesture of solidarity, decided to set up a fighting fund to help strikers' families during the dispute with P&O
● To avoid the money going straight to court sequestrators it is to be paid into a special fund for the seamen and their families, not the seamen's union
● P&O rejected a peace formula by the National Union of Seamen and the TUC, indicating its willingness to let the dispute run its course
● A defiant Mr Sam McCloskie, the union's leader, vowed there would be no surrender in the widening dispute despite the sequestration order

By Philip Webster, Tim Jones and David Sapsted

Labour leaders last night threw their weight behind the striking seamen by deciding to set up a fighting fund to help their families during the dispute with P&O.

The Shadow Cabinet proposed the gesture of solidarity with the National Union of Seamen after it had received overwhelming backing at a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party earlier in the day. It urged

all MPs to contribute the "maximum possible weekly amount" to a fund to alleviate hardship among seafarers' families.

The move was proposed by Mr Michael Meacher, shadow employment secretary, at yesterday's meeting of the PLP. He proposed a sum of between £5 and £10 a week. He had earlier received backing for the proposal from Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader.

To prevent the money going straight to the sequestrators it will go into a fund for the seamen and their families and not directly to the NUS.

The Labour move is likely to heighten the political tension in the dispute. Conservative MPs are expected to accuse Labour of action which could prolong a dispute causing hardship to the public.

P&O made it clear last night that it was prepared to see the dispute with the NUS through to the bitter end by rejecting out of hand a peace formula put forward by the union and the TUC.

Union officials were ordered out of their headquarters at Maritime House in Chatham, south-east London, by High Court judges.

Mr Sam McCloskie, the union's general secretary, and the staff were evicted by sequestrators who on Tuesday had been ordered to seize the union's £2.8 million assets.

This resulted from a breach of a court order banning the NUS from interfering with the business of Sealink, which is not in dispute with the union.

When he addressed 500 pickets at Dover yesterday, a defiant Mr McCloskie said there would be no surrender in the widening dispute, in spite of the sequestration order and the £150,000 levies imposed on the union by Mr Justice Michael Davies, who said the action of the NUS was "the clearest possible case of deliberate attempted suicide".

Sealink still have a writ outstanding against Mr McCloskie and Mr Roger Wilkins, the union's deputy general secretary. If it is reactivated, both men could face possible imprisonment.

Mr McCloskie gave no indication yesterday that he was

in any mood to apologize to the High Court, as he appealed to all his members "for God's sake come and join us. This dispute has now become about the very basis of trade unionism in our country."

Leaving his headquarters yesterday after a three hour meeting with the sequestrators, Mr McCloskie said: "This is the last time I will come out of this building until we have purged our contempt of court. If necessary we will set up our headquarters by pitching camp on the common across the road."

Mr Christopher Erving, the union's legal advisor said: "He is in a deft stick. He has either got to go with his members or the law."

On each opportunity the strike has so far been raised in Parliament, Mrs Thatcher has underlined the right of the strike-breaking seamen to go to work "without let or hindrance."

But the Shadow Cabinet last night passed a motion backing the NUS in its "justified efforts" to ensure the safety of the travelling public and of seafarers by seeking to secure acceptable conditions of work and leave for crews. It said the



dispute was causing "grave financial difficulties for seafarers and their families" and called on the PLP to make arrangements immediately for contributions.

Although contributions will be voluntary Mr Meacher is hoping for a 100 per cent response. During previous disputes, notably the miners' strike, there have been arrangements whereby Labour MPs have contributed to funds for strikers and their families.



Mr Michael Meacher, Opposition employment spokesman, who proposed a hardship fund for seamen, addresses pickets at Dover yesterday (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance)

43 left dead as Israelis pull out of Lebanon

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

All invading Israeli troops were pulled back from south Lebanon last night after a fierce battle with Hezbollah gunmen left three soldiers and at least 40 of the Iranian-backed militia dead.

Another 17 soldiers were wounded, most of them slightly, in the morning attack to capture the hilltop village of Meidoun just north of the "security zone" which Israel controls inside the border.

According to an army statement Hezbollah had chased away all the villagers over the past year and converted Meidoun into a fortress, which it used as a base for launching attacks on positions manned by Israeli troops and the South Lebanon army.

Overnight, UN observers said more than 500 Israeli howitzer shells pounded into

the hilltop. At first light paratroopers were sent in to surround the area and cut off roads.

The few dozen houses appear to have been reduced to rubble by the bombardment.

Criticism deflected.....6
Parliament.....10

ment, but as Israeli troops advanced they came under fire from the village and from Lebanese army positions north of it. Helicopter gunships and an artillery barrage pounded Hezbollah and the Lebanese army, destroying artillery batteries and trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns.

Israeli troops met resistance in the village, and there were reports of hand-to-hand fighting before it was captured. By then all the buildings had been virtually levelled.

The operation was a second phase in the 48-hour invasion which began on Tuesday with the encirclement of villages believed to have helped Palestinian commando units to infiltrate the border. That operation passed off peacefully.

From Meidoun the troops moved forward to within a mile of Syrian positions. The village of Ein El Tenniyeh and the Syrian controlled town of Machgharah were both shelled.

Meanwhile, in the occupied territories there was widespread violence during the day as Palestinians demonstrated and a general strike brought all commercial life to a standstill in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem.

Students at Gdansk university and the polytechnic staged sympathy sit-ins yesterday. A similar protest action was planned for today in Warsaw.

● WASHINGTON: President Reagan, in his first public remarks about the strikes in Poland, said yesterday: "We hope and pray that the Polish Government will hear the voice of the Polish people and that economic reform and recovery will soon begin." (Moshin Ali writes.)

The Polish people have long been ready for it," he said, in an address on the relationship of human rights and economic progress to the National Strategy Forum in Chicago, Illinois.

The House will then consider amendments for 20 weeks, 22 weeks and finally 24 weeks. If either the 20 week or 22 week amendments are passed, there will be no vote on the 24 week amendment.

The Speaker's ruling could be contested by Alton opponents, who were meeting last night to plan their strategy. Even if Mr Alton wins on the 20 or 22-week amendments, there will still be plenty of opportunities to stop his Bill.

If it fails to complete the report stage tomorrow it could fall for lack of time.

Highest alert at British bases as IRA bomb links emerge

From Richard Owen, Wegberg, and Michael Evans, Gutersloh, West Germany

The 70,000 British servicemen and their families in West Germany were placed under the highest "red alert" security yesterday as it emerged that this week's three terrorist incidents were linked and that the IRA is receiving "indispensable" assistance from West German terrorists.

As Princess Margaret paid a visit amid intense security to the British airmen who survived one of last Sunday's two IRA attacks on the Dutch-German border, Western military officials and West German police sources said they believed there was a direct link between the car bomb attack at Nieuw Bergen and the shooting at Roermond on Sunday and the bomb discovered on Tuesday at a British Army base at Bielefeld, more than 100 miles away in West Germany.

The two British police officers, one from the Special Branch and one from Scotland Yard, who have spent the past two days assisting Dutch police, finally established yesterday that the bomb used to murder two British airmen while they sat in their car outside a discotheque at Nieuw Bergen was an IRA device.

The two officers, one of whom specializes in IRA activities in Europe and the other in explosives, returned to Britain last night after providing their Dutch colleagues with detailed evidence.

"We are very sure now that the bomb was placed by the IRA," the Dutch police spokesman, Sergeant Harry Clabbers, said. He said the bomb had been placed under the airmen's car, but declined to give further details.

He said the British police officers had clearly established, after minute examination of both the car and the town hall square where the explosion occurred, that the car bomb closely resembled previous IRA attacks in Britain.

Dutch police yesterday briefly questioned Senior Aircrewman Andrew Kelly,

who survived the Nieuw Bergen bombing, but said he was still so badly injured that he was unable to give much information.

But the police were able to question at length Senior Aircrewman Richard Garth, who survived the Roermond shooting, both before and after he had been briefly visited by Princess Margaret.

Police said the other surviving airmen, Senior Aircrewman Ian Lewis, whose foot has been amputated, would not be fit enough to answer questions for another two weeks. The Dutch police have questioned 200 witnesses so far about the two attacks, but

they still have no description of any suspect. "These are attacks on British army targets in West Germany and there seems to be an emerging pattern," one source said. "It is almost accidental that the first incidents were in Holland because the airmen had gone over the border to relax."

The sources said the bomb planted under an officer's car at Bielefeld, headquarters of the First British Army Corps, could have been put in place by, or with the help of, terrorists from West Germany's Red Army Faction, which officials said had developed "very close links" with the IRA.

Officials revealed that the Red Army Faction even names its "commando units" after "martyrs" of other European terrorist groups. One team is named after Patrick O'Hara, an IRA terrorist who died after staging a hunger strike in a Belfast prison.

Continued on page 22, col 2

French hostages freed

Paris (AFP) - The three French hostages held in Lebanon have been released, the French Interior Ministry announced here last night.

M Jean-Paul Kauffmann, M Marcel Carion and M Marcel Fontaine had been held in Lebanon by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad group.

M Carion and M Fontaine, both diplomats, and M Kauffmann, a journalist, were kidnapped in 1983. The announcement was made here by M Charles Pasqua, the French Interior Minister.

Earlier, guards at the Summerland Hotel in Beirut reported seeing the hostages being handed over.

Syrian expelled, page 7

Another shipyard strikes

Gdansk tension stepped up

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

The Polish authorities yesterday stepped up the level of tension around the Lenin shipyard here as the current wave of industrial unrest spread to another shipyard in the city, and a new strike was declared at a copper mine in Silesia.

For the second night running, riot police in Gdansk sealed off the Lenin shipyard, where 7,000 strikers are demanding recognition of the banned Solidarity trade union and pay rises.

Earlier hints by the Government indicated preparedness to open up some dialogue with Solidarity, which was officially dissolved in 1982 and has not since been recognized.

But the number of riot police deployed around the shipyard was estimated as being higher than on Tuesday, and they took up their positions an hour earlier. The neighbouring Repair

shipyard had declared a sympathy strike earlier in the morning.

Inside the Lenin shipyard, Mr Lech Walesa responded to a call by Mr Zdzislaw Sadowski, the Deputy Prime Minister,

Unrest spreads.....6
for "unofficial talks with Solidarity after the strike."

Mr Walesa said that he was "happy to hold talks with anyone without preconditions", which was interpreted as meaning that he would not call for the strike to be ended before negotiations had begun.

In the wake of the news that Polish Catholic leaders were attempting to mediate in the dispute, Mr Walesa was confident that the church would "take no sides".

He spent some hours talking with two Catholic mediators sent to Gdansk, Mr

Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Mr Andrzej Wielowieyski. At the nearby church of St Brygida's, prayers were offered for the strikers preparing to spend a third night in the shipyard, sleeping on floors.

Students at Gdansk university and the polytechnic staged sympathy sit-ins yesterday. A similar protest action was planned for today in Warsaw.

● WASHINGTON: President Reagan, in his first public remarks about the strikes in Poland, said yesterday: "We hope and pray that the Polish Government will hear the voice of the Polish people and that economic reform and recovery will soon begin." (Moshin Ali writes.)

The Polish people have long been ready for it," he said, in an address on the relationship of human rights and economic progress to the National Strategy Forum in Chicago, Illinois.

Monopolies inquiry into Kuwait BP stake

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government has ordered a full Monopolies and Mergers Commission report into Kuwait's building of a 22 per cent stake in BP, Britain's biggest company, after the October stock market collapse.

It is understood also to be preparing to persuade Kuwait to reduce its holding to nearer 15 per cent and that Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah, the Kuwait oil minister, who is in London, may be invited for talks this week with Lord

Young, the Trade and Industry Secretary.

This would be a reversal of the Government's free market policies, but BP is seen as being in a strategically important industry. A British company involved with an Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries member could also, it is felt, lead to problems over Britain's North Sea output policy, which Opec opposes.

Pressure on Kuwait, page 23

Alton's abortion Bill gets boost from Speaker

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

A ruling from the Commons Speaker has given an important boost to Mr David Alton's campaign for a significant lowering of the legal limit for abortions.

With Mr Alton's Bill due for its final stages in the Commons tomorrow, it emerged that Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, has decided to conduct the debate in a way which could mean that the proposal for a 24 week limit, around which Mr Alton's opponents have been mobilizing, is not voted upon.

The Alton campaign was also buoyed by the news that a coroner has asked Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, for permission to hold an

inquest into the case of a 21-week-old foetus which allegedly struggled for life for three hours after being aborted.

Mr Ian Morison, the coroner for North-east Cumbria, said in a letter to Mr Alton that after studying the police file on the case he had concluded that an inquest would be in the public interest.

In cases where there is no body the Home Secretary has to decide whether to direct that an inquest take place.

The Speaker has decided that the House should consider time limit amendments tomorrow in the order in which they were tabled. The Alton Bill would reduce the present legal limit of 28 weeks to the end of the seventeenth week of pregnancy.

Although it received a second

reading, many MPs backed it on the basis that the limit would be raised during the Bill's passage.

Mr Alton's opponents, led by Mr Andrew Mackay, Conservative MP for Berkshire East, believe there is substantial support for the 24-week option, which is also backed by the Prime Minister.

Mr Mackay has argued that, according to precedent, the House should consider amendments in descending order from the existing 28 weeks.

But the Speaker has said in a letter to MPs he has tabled amendments that he proposes to follow the precedent of taking amendments in the order in which they were tabled.

The House will first consider an amendment to reduce the limit to 26

weeks, tabled by Ms Jo Richardson, Labour spokeswoman on women's rights. There is not thought to be a majority for that.

The House will then consider amendments for 20 weeks, 22 weeks and finally 24 weeks.

If either the 20 week or 22 week amendments are passed, there will be no vote on the 24 week amendment.

The Speaker's ruling could be contested by Alton opponents, who were meeting last night to plan their strategy. Even if Mr Alton wins on the 20 or 22-week amendments, there will still be plenty of opportunities to stop his Bill.

If it fails to complete the report stage tomorrow it could fall for lack of time.

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● Yesterday's winner:
page 3

INSIDE



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See page 11

IN PART 2

City rap

Three unit trust groups are criticized in a Department of Trade report into share dealings in Equity & General, the motor and financial services group. Page 23

Vital colleges

Higher education may play a larger part in our culture for the sake of industry. General appointments, 30-36

INDEX

Home News	2-3
Overseas	4-5
Business	23-25
Sport	36-42
Arts	18-19
Banking & accountancy	24-26
Births, marriages, deaths	15
Books	17
City Diary	25
Court	14
Crime de la semaine	36-38
Crosswords	11, 22
Diary	20
Entertainment	11, 12
Features	16
Health	20
Information	20
Law Report	30
Leading articles	13
Letters	13
Obituary	14
Parliament	19
Saleroom	22
Science Report	21
TV & Radio	22
Weather	22

Life sentences for two PCs who beat man to death in cell

By Michael Horsnell

Two policemen were sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday for beating a former Welsh guard to death in a police cell.

Their victim had a reputation for being a "hard case" and the two officers wanted to teach him a lesson after an incident in a public house, Liverpool Crown Court was told. The prosecution described the murder as "cowardly and brutal".

The jury retired for nearly five hours before finding Police Constable Hamish Montgomery, aged 33, and Police Constable Patrick Shevlin, aged 27, guilty at the end of a 13-day trial.

It is believed to be the first time serving police officers have been sentenced to life imprisonment for murder. It is understood that both officers are considering whether to appeal against conviction and sentence.

They will meanwhile face formal disciplinary action, which may also be taken against other police officers involved in the case.

There could also be a review of the Lancashire force's orders for dealing with unruly prisoners.

During the trial, several police officers were shown to have lied.

Asked if any other officers could face criminal charges or disciplinary proceedings, Mr Mike Prunty, deputy chief

constable of Lancashire, said: "There are a number of aspects arising out of the trial which have to be closely considered to see whether there is a need for further inquiries to be undertaken. The papers in this case now have to be referred to the police authority and they will decide on any question of police disciplinary action."

The court was told that Shevlin and Montgomery trained truncheon blows on Mr Owen Roberts, aged 24, of Rivington Place, Lancaster, at Morecambe police station where he was taken after a violent struggle with a group of officers, including the two accused.

The police had been called to the Blue Anchor, Lancaster, on June 5, last year after Mr Roberts, who was drunk, had punched the landlord.

Cheers broke out among relatives and friends of the dead man and there was a shout of "justice" as the verdicts were returned.

The dead man's mother, Mrs Erika Carruthers, broke down and wept. Later she said: "I am glad justice has been done. I thought there was going to be a whitewash, but there has not been. I am grateful for the way it has been handled."

Mr Justice McNeill told the two officers: "Each of you know full well that the sentence for the offence of which

you have been convicted by the jury is laid down by law. It is the only sentence I can pass upon you."

The prosecution said Montgomery, of Eastcliffe, Cloughton, Lancaster, and Shevlin, of Poulton Street, Preston, acted together in a "cowardly and brutal" manner.

Montgomery and Shevlin claimed that when the police van doors were opened at Morecambe, Mr Roberts was lying on his face. They said they had to drag him into the police station. They said they put him in a cell and left after locking the door.

But neither could explain how fibres from the dead man's shirt had been found on Shevlin's shoe and Montgomery's truncheon.

Other police officers saw Montgomery and Shevlin strike Mr Roberts continually with their truncheons. When he was in the cell a colleague heard thuds "as if Roberts was getting another good pasting."

Mr Rhys Davies, QC, for the prosecution, said at the start of the trial: "It was a deliberate, violent and prolonged attack by these two men acting together in a cowardly and brutal manner. Because of his reputation as a hard man he was being taught a lesson that he would never forget."

Both accused had denied in court striking the dead man.

Youngest singers at 'bicentennial' proms



Southend Boys Choir, aged between nine and 11, the youngest performers for a Prom, rehearsing at the Albert Hall

(Photograph: Tim Bishop)

By Andrew Billen

A performance by the late composer Percy Grainger is a feature of this year's Henry Wood Promenade Concerts staged by the BBC. During the last-night programme the audience at the Albert Hall and television viewers will see a piano keyboard respond to the notes Grainger played in an eccentric performance in 1921 of Grieg's Piano Concerto. It was recorded on piano roll.

Mr John Drummond, controller of BBC Radio 3 and director of the Proms, has decided the performance fits one of the themes, Australia's bicentennial, of this year's concerts. Grainger, who died in 1961, was Australian. The piece will be conducted on September 17 by Andrew Davis.

The bicentennial will also be marked by a return visit of the Australian Youth Orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles Mackerras, and the London debut of the

Sydney-based group, Fiederman, performing an evening concert of Australian composers' work.

Mr Drummond announced yesterday that the eight-week Prom season, the 94th, would feature a record 69 concerts.

Leonard Bernstein, who made his Proms debut last summer, is returning to conduct his Songfest, written for the bicentennial of the United States.

Voucher scheme, page 20

Curb on consultants who abuse NHS

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A system to curtail consultants who abuse their NHS contracts by doing excessive private work is likely to be introduced by the Government this year.

After talks with the British Medical Association, the Department of Health and Social Security has agreed to support review machinery under which doctors will face a committee of consultants if they fail to put in sufficient hours on NHS work.

Mr Paddy Ross, chairman of the BMA's consultants' committee, said the Government had agreed in principle to include the new machinery in an overhaul of disciplinary procedures to be announced this year.

The BMA has also agreed, at the request of Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, to carry out a survey of the hours worked by all consultants working in the NHS. Mr Moore accepted that a majority of consultants works their fair share but he wanted evidence from us, Mr Ross said.

Under the BMA's scheme, a standing committee of "four iron men" will be set up in each of the country's 192 districts.

A cut-price private surgery insurance scheme to attract two million young and elderly subscribers was launched by BUPA yesterday. The scheme designed mainly for the under-30s and the over-65s is aimed at those who have to wait longest for an NHS operation. Premiums, some of which are half the existing BUPA rates, cover hernias, varicose veins, joint replacements, tonsillectomies, cataract removals, sterilisation and cardiac surgery.

The four, all consultants, will probably comprise the chairman of the hospital medical staff committee, a full and a part-time consultant and one ad hoc member. The membership would shift if a consultant on the committee or someone from his department was the subject of the complaint.

Under the system, junior doctors will be able to complain if their seniors consistently fail to show up for a NHS session.

"The committee would first assess whether the allegation stood up. If it did

they would point out to the consultant that it might be advisable if he changed his work pattern and he would be reassessed in six months' time", Mr Ross said. If he refused to see the committee the matter would be referred to the regional medical officer.

Mr Ross emphasized that health authorities already had the powers to discipline, suspend or even dismiss consultants who were flagrantly abusing their contract. The purpose of the new committee would be to warn and monitor doctors at an earlier stage.

Apart from spending too much time on private work or the golf course, some consultants took on too much NHS work. Mr Ross said. Under existing contracts, a maximum part-time worker has to spend 35 hours a week on NHS work. Full time consultants are expected to work 38½ hours a week for the NHS.

Dr Royce Darnell, suspended as consultant microbiologist at the Royal Infirmary in Derby for six years on an annual salary of £30,000 for alleged laboratory mismanagement, was dismissed yesterday.

Prisoner unfairly dismissed

A woman given notice by her employer while serving a prison sentence was unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal ruled yesterday.

Mrs Elizabeth Pettit, aged 32, was jailed for nine months after a trial in which her lover admitted attempting to murder her husband. Mrs Pettit was an analyst at the top secret Marconi Underwater Systems defence establishment at Watlington, near Portsmouth, Hampshire.

She was convicted of preventing her lover's arrest and served half the sentence. At yesterday's hearing in Southampton Mr Michael Rich, tribunal chairman, said: "When the company terminated the job, it did not anticipate the length of absence."

"This was a specialist job, the possibility of finding a replacement in time to make it practical, before she could

resume, renders such action nonsense."

Last November, Winchester Crown Court was told that Mrs Pettit and Malcolm Brown, aged 40, plotted to kill her husband, Lieutenant-Commander Ian Pettit, aged 32, at their home in Denmead, Hampshire.

Lieutenant-Commander Pettit was bludgeoned on the head by Brown, and nearly died from a fractured skull. Brown was jailed for seven years.

Yesterday, Mrs Pettit told the tribunal: "I felt I made it as plain as possible (the absence) would be for four and a half months. I don't think it was simply a matter of being unable to attend work for four and a half months. It was largely for the reason of absence."

Mr David Hammersley, Marconi unit personnel manager, said it was decided that

since it would take nine months before a trial, the best course was to terminate Mrs Pettit's employment.

She appealed, and after a petition for her reinstatement by colleagues, was given her job back. After the crown court trial, Mr Hammersley said, Marconi came to the conclusion that Mrs Pettit should be replaced, and she was sent a letter of dismissal.

Mrs Pettit, asked by her solicitor, Mr Howard Patchell, if she thought an employee would have been dismissed if absent for four and a half months through illness, replied: "No". Mr Patchell asked Mr Hammersley if Marconi had sought legal advice on the likely length of Mrs Pettit's sentence. Mr Hammersley said it had not.

Marconi and Mrs Pettit, who now has a better-paid job and lives in Gwent, agreed to undisclosed compensation.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Win will be spent on a car

The sole winner of the daily Portfolio prize of £4,000 is a teacher of religious studies at a girls' independent school who plans to spend her windfall on a car.

Mrs Sylvia Fox, aged 53, of Littleover Lane, Derby, said: "This will be extremely useful as I am in need of a new car after my old one was written off in March by a runaway car which crashed into my garden."

She said she had been taking part in the competition since it began.



Mrs Sylvia Fox

Officials used office as agency

By Craig Selous

Two senior officials of Birmingham City Council were dismissed yesterday after an investigation into claims that they ran a model and escort agency from the council's department.

Mr Bryan Jackson, aged 48, a project supplies officer, and Mr Tom Doherty, aged 43, an accountant, had been suspended on full pay pending a disciplinary hearing.

They were accused of using council time and telephones to run a private business offering model girls for promotions and as escorts for businessmen visiting Birmingham.

Calling cards issued by the agency gave a telephone number inside the treasurer's department.

Council officials became suspicious after calls were detected on a computerized monitoring system.

Mr Jackson is a former president of the Birmingham branch of the National and Local Government Officers' Association and worked for the council for 21 years.

Mr Bernard Farrar, the city treasurer, said yesterday that the men had been dismissed for "gross misconduct".

Neither Mr Jackson nor Mr Doherty was available for comment yesterday.

Drink-drive insurance perk

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The "perk" of a company car is worth hundreds of pounds a year for drivers regarding their driving licence after a drink drive conviction. Most company car drivers are given back their cars after being suspended, in contrast to private motorists who face big increases in insurance premiums for several years.

The company executive can expect to return to a car of similar status, yet the private motorist may be forced to buy a cheaper and less prestigious model because of the much higher insurance premium.

The Government has warned motorists in its drink-drive campaigns about the much higher insurance premiums for convicted drivers with the slogan: "Higher insurance: an even bigger blow".

The hidden insurance perk is even more important to a company director driving a luxury car.

A drink drive conviction for an executive aged 45 with a previously clean licence could mean doubling the cost of privately insuring a Jaguar to £1281 a year.

One leading merchant bank emphasized last night that executives were not automatically reinstated in the type of car they drove before a drink-drive conviction. ICI confirmed that there is no discrimination against employees who have had their licences suspended.

The anomaly arises because the insurance industry views the private motorist as an individual risk while a fleet of cars is judged as a shared risk, where the main consideration is the cost of the total claims from the company.

A company will not face any increase in insurance premium if the convicted driver is accident-free.

Tyre tread depth review backed

The Consumers' Association magazine *Which?* yesterday supported the call for an increase in the legal minimum tread depth for car tyres.

The Government is firmly opposed to a proposed EEC directive for a 1.6 mm minimum tyre depth and believes changing from the present British requirement of 1 mm of tread across 75 per cent of the tread width would cost motorists an extra £70 million a year.

Which? says that for safer tyre regulations "less than 24 per cent per year seems a very small price to pay". The Consumers' Association also wants the tread wear indicators, which are moulded into some tyre treads, to be adopted as standard.

The Consumers' Association said yesterday that although the Education Reform Bill will give parents more rights if it becomes law, they are not making the most of the ones they already have. More

than half the parents questioned thought teachers should be left to get on with their jobs without parental interference. The one right that nearly every parent wanted, but did not have, was the right to see their child's school record.

Quenching is people's pet Post Office hate, according to a survey published in *Which?* It found that six out of 10 people who used main Post Offices were dissatisfied with the time spent queuing.

Mr Douglas Miller, director of environmental health for Banff and Buchan District Council, which manages the Fraserburgh beach, said: "We assumed the rules would be the same as last year. We have never banned dogs."

"I do not really think that would be reasonable."

A total of 31 beaches have entered the contest. Results will be announced later this summer, after visits to each beach by inspectors.

Dog ban rule upsets seaside residents

By Ruth Gledhill

A campaign to be launched today to persuade more seaside resorts to clean their beaches has upset dog owners.

Two beaches in Scotland, which won Blue Flags last year from the Tiny Britain Group for their high standards of cleanliness and management, this year failed to qualify for the contest because of a sudden change in the rules, banning dogs from beaches during the holiday season.

One of the resorts said the award the previous year had been unexpected and they were unaware that they had even had to apply this year.

The beaches, in Fraserburgh, Grampian, and Carnoustie, Tayside, were not eligible to enter the contest because they have no regulations which ban dogs.

To qualify for the 1988 flag contest, for which judging starts today, a beach must

be regularly used by large numbers of people and be managed by its owners.

It should be free of industrial or sewage pollution and litter, have first aid and life-saving equipment, have public telephones, be cleaned regularly and supplied with litter bins.

The extra rule this year to ban dogs during the holiday season was criticized yesterday by the two eliminated Scottish resorts as impractical.

"It would be virtually impossible to keep dogs off the beach", Dr Kenneth Browne, secretary of the Carmoestie Community Council, said.

"I do not think anyone can really be serious about a ban on dogs."

Mr Ian Webster, assistant director of environmental health with the local council, said: "It is a tradition that

owners are allowed to exercise their dogs on the beach.

"The councillors thought the blue flag was a very good thing to get last year. I presume they would hope to maintain the same standards this year, and would expect the flag to apply to other beaches as well."

Mr Douglas Miller, director of environmental health for Banff and Buchan District Council, which manages the Fraserburgh beach, said: "We assumed the rules would be the same as last year. We have never banned dogs."

"I do not really think that would be reasonable."

A total of 31 beaches have entered the contest. Results will be announced later this summer, after visits to each beach by inspectors.

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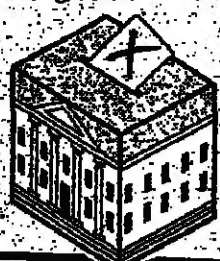
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A town of different parts where the Tories look safe

By Craig Selton



1988 LOCAL ELECTIONS

Solihull is a town of different parts. It is one of the 36 metropolitan district councils with an overall Tory majority.

The town has a fair share of affluent voters whose large, detached houses can be found in tree-lined avenues in the south of the old county borough or attractive villages in outlying rural areas.

But its support derives as much from the blue and white collar workers occupying thousands of neat semi-detached houses in the borough.

And the northern part, where council estates were built for house Birmingham overspill in the 1960s and 1970s, gives the Labour Party the bedrock of its support.

For all its different parts, it remains one of the Government's favourite boroughs. Significantly, it was chosen for the country's first city technology college, which will open in September, for children aged 11 and upwards.

Good education has always been a dominant theme of the town, where a few years ago plans were mooted to reintroduce selection. Now middle class newcomers are drawn to live in the catchment area of two noted comprehensives.

Mr Bob Meacham, leader of the Conservative group on Solihull Borough Council, said the party still had to work hard for votes.

"People think Solihull is 100 per cent Conservative, but our overall majority is only five, the lowest it has ever been so I would not want to lose any seats."

"I am tired of the stockbroker belt label because it is so inaccurate. We are to a certain extent a residential dormitory area

District profile: Solihull

of Birmingham, but there are plenty of small and semi-detached houses. On average it is a relatively comfortable middle class area."

People forget, he said, that Land-Rover had its plant there, employing more than 6,000 people, and that many other local people depended on jobs in manufacturing in the West Midlands, which had been badly hit by the recession.

But, few believe the Conservative Party will lose overall control. It has 28 of the council's 51 seats, double those held by Labour, but there are three Social and Liberal Democrats and six independents, the majority linked to a ratepayers' association which constantly harries the Conservatives over spending.

Nine of the 17 seats being contested are held by the Conservatives.

Mr Meacham, who runs his own industrial lighting business, believes his

party might gain up to four seats and lose two.

There is concern that the community charge will cost some middle class votes and that social security and housing benefit changes will strengthen Labour's vote in the north.

But, Conservatives believe that tax cuts benefiting the large proportion of professional and managerial staff living there and the improving West Midlands economy will help the party.

The community charge will replace a district rate which, at an average of £200.15, is the lowest of the 36 metropolitan districts.

This year there was no increase in the district rate. Last year it even fell slightly and ratepayers have become accustomed to the financial prudence of their council.

Mr Meacham said the proposed community charge for Solihull would have been low, at £168, but for the Government's plan for a maximum addition of £75 for four years to compensate "for those people who were unfortunate enough to vote for high-spending councils".

"It has been raised on the doorstep and it might well lose us some votes, but I do not think it will lose us any seats."

Solihull's prosperity was improving with the economy, he said. It was rapidly developing a commercial base, including business based on the National Exhibition Centre, near by, and house prices, already soaring, are expected to rise further when the M40 Oxford to Birmingham link is completed.

The council has also satisfied many villagers in the east of the borough by opposing plans for a £400 million superpit which they feared would damage the environment.

The Labour Party believes its support will be strengthened on the council estates in the north as a result of the Government's social security and housing benefit changes and that some traditional Tories are worried about the community charge.

It has also given a warning that the new city technology college will cream off the borough's brightest pupils, to the detriment of local schools.

Result will be pointer to poll tax acceptance

By David Walker

Today's district council elections, after a campaign in which all parties have done their best to damp expectations, will give the clearest indication yet whether the Government's poll tax plans are vote winners or losers.

Mr Peter Brooke, the Conservative Party chairman, began the campaign last month claiming the Conservatives would make net gains among the 3,800 seats being contested. By the time of his final press conference on Tuesday this week, he was merely "quietly confident".

Labour, meanwhile, began in the odd position of trying to predict that it would lose seats while emphasizing that the election with which 1988 is best compared, 1984, was a peak of electoral performance.

It ended the campaign with Dr John Cunningham, its shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, predicting "consolidation" of a strong position.

The Social and Liberal Democrats have had to contend throughout the campaign with reports that their vote was in imminent danger of collapse. The Owenites, defending 13 seats, are only a few steps short of oblivion as a party with municipal pretensions.

According to party leaders in the metropolitan districts examined by *The Times*, poll tax is certainly a doorstep issue; the changes in the social security system equally have been a talking point.

The Conservatives, for whom reform of local government finance was meant to be a vote winner, have been thrown on to the defensive.

Labour's problem is that having warned the electorate of the dire threats contained in the poll tax, and engineered the publication yesterday of a new batch of poll tax estimates, it may find that the voters may grumble but not come out and mark their ballots in protest.

The Conservatives may convincingly claim tomorrow morning that the poll tax is empty as a vote turning issue.

Professor George Jones, of the London School of Economics, a tireless advocate of local democracy, said yesterday that in recent years people have been paying more and more attention to purely local issues in council elections.

However, the key to both turnout and voting preference today will be, in spite of Professor Jones, the public's general sense of economic wellbeing and the credit they give for that to the present incumbents at Westminster, not the town hall.

● The next projected poll tax payment figures for Surrey replace those which appeared in earlier editions of *The Times* yesterday. Those figures were omitted from later editions after the Labour Party issued a correction of the list, prepared by officials of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, which it published on Tuesday.

Projections from 1988-89 are given first in £ per adult, followed by the 1987-88 projections and the percentage change. Decrease is marked with a minus.

Elmbridge: 187, 238, -28; Epsom 218, 182, 17; Guildford 264, 160, 25; Mole Valley 171, 169, 1; Reigate 223, 183, 18; Runnymede 171, 151, 12; Spelthorne 211, 179, 15; Surrey Heath 188, 140, 25; Tandridge 221, 173, 22; Waverley 208, 174, 16; Woking 170, 140, 18.

Claimants getting poor service at benefit office

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Appalling levels of service are being offered to the public by some local social security offices, the National Audit Office disclosed yesterday.

Benefit claimants had to wait hours to be seen; claims took days to be processed; payments were inaccurately assessed and little or nothing was done to make sure claimants knew all the benefits to which they were entitled. Many offices were housed in oppressive and inadequate buildings.

The worst offices were in London and the inner cities. The service provided for supplementary benefit claimants was inferior to that for contributory benefit claimants such as pensioners.

The report says that the Department of Health and Social Security was aware of widespread dissatisfaction with service at its 500 local offices back in 1984, and acknowledged serious problems.

However, "in general there was no evidence of any improvement since then". In some fields the service had deteriorated still further. In 1986, the Greater London Council's Advice Bureau claimed that administration of supplementary benefit in many London offices had "virtually collapsed".

Senior officials of the department are, it appears, before the Commons public accounts committee on May 16 and are certain to face fierce questioning on the report by the MPs.

The audit office commissioned a survey by Gallup as part of its investigation. That showed that a quarter of all claimants believed they received a poor service from their local social security offices, and nearly half supplementary benefit claimants - two million people - had problems with claims during the previous 12 months. Most aggrieved were the unemployed and single parents.

"In the NAO's view this level of dissatisfaction must give rise to concern," the report says.

The audit office investigation disclosed huge discrepancies in the time taken to clear claims for supplementary benefit, with some offices averaging two and a half days

and others 15 days. The number of claims taking more than 10 days had increased from 13 per cent to 21 per cent, or 1.5 million claims in four years.

The average time for dealing with supplementary benefit appeals was 21 days - six days above the national target - with a few offices taking a remarkable 62 days.

As many as a quarter of supplementary benefit claims were wrongly assessed in the worst offices, compared with 4.1 per cent in the best.

The Gallup survey showed that 37 per cent of all claimants had to wait 70 minutes to be dealt with, 21 per cent more than two hours, and 6 per cent more than four hours. The highest average waiting times were in north London and the inner cities, averaging 99 minutes and 95 minutes respectively.

The report says many offices are housed in "old and cramped accommodation and are poorly equipped and run down". Officials of the department admitted that overcrowding led to agitation, vandalism and aggression and that 10 per cent of offices needed to be rehoused.

Supplementary benefit waiting areas were generally worse than those for contributory benefit claimants. Claimants complained about lack of privacy, facilities for children, and lavatories.

Significant numbers of low paid working families and needy pensioners were not claiming the full benefits for which they were eligible. Supplementary benefit worth £570 million and Family Income Supplement worth £53 million was not claimed in 1983-84.

However, while some offices actively encouraged the take-up of benefits, others did the bare minimum. A quarter of supplementary benefit claimants said they found it hard to get the information they needed from their local offices, and since 1983-84 Citizens' Advice Bureaux had experienced a 60 per cent increase in inquiries.

National Audit Office: DHSS: Quality of Service to the Public at Local Offices (Stationery Office: £4.30).

More standing room in Tube trains



Mr Brian Singleton, Stanmore's area manager, with the newest train to run on the Jubilee Line (Photograph: Bryn Colton).

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

New prototype trains, which will come into regular use in the early 1990s, were beginning their first trials carrying fare paying passengers, Mr Tony Ridley, chairman and managing director of London Underground, said yesterday.

He understood the sad events of last November's fire and the lessons to be learnt from the King's Cross inquiry.

The Underground's shortcomings should be seen in the context of the many positive things they were doing, he said.

One of these is planning a £500 million modernization for the Central Line, involving the provision of about 75 new trains, and the installation of a new signalling system.

The train of the future will mean more passengers standing, with fewer seats than the 40 per carriage in existing rolling stock. There will also be 12 "perches".

London Underground claimed that this would provide more standing room, enabling 50 or more additional passengers per train to be carried. The trials are being carried out on the Jubilee Line, because signalling on the Central Line where the trains will eventually operate is unsuitable.

Artificial mind for private investors

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

A stocks and shares computer system designed to enable the private investor to take on City experts was launched in London yesterday.

The Intelligent Trading System (ITS), which was developed in the United States, is capable of analysing financial information and making decisions about when to sell, when to buy and what price to pay.

It exploits advances in artificial intelligence which enable computers to be given the skills of a human expert in a field such as finance. Its makers claim it will run on a home computer such as the Amstrad PC.

The ITS software enables the computer to call up financial databases by telephone and take in all the volume and price information about investments. Analysis of the information takes about 30 minutes, after which the computer gives its decisions.

Two former City-based technology experts have set up a new company, Financia, to bring the system to Europe.

Although a number of financial companies, particularly in the United States, have hired so-called "rocket scientists" to develop their own in-house expert systems, the results have been closely guarded secrets.

Mr Philip Berber, managing director of the company, said that he sees Financia's principal market for ITS as European brokers, traders and fund managers who do not have access to their own computerized advisers. He said private investors also appeared willing to pay £15,000 for the computer program.

"They see the system as the tool used by professionals and see the cost as an investment," he said. The system's performance had been "particularly impressive" during last October's crash, giving clear "down" signals.

"The Intelligent Trading System started selling and going short from around October 6. By the end of trading on October 19, the in-house portfolio was up 28.6 per cent on the day."

Johns work sells for £2.2m

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

Jasper Johns became the most expensive artist alive when "Diver", a gigantic painting by him complete with real fork, knife and spoon, and the artist's own hand and footprints, sold for \$4.2 million (£2.2 million) at Christie's New York on Tuesday.

It was one of three world records at the best contemporary art sale Christie's has ever had.

"Diver", an oil on canvas painting on five panels, which has been included in every important exhibition of the artist's works during his 26 years of existence, is a compendium of the American artist's favourite themes. His bullseye motif, for example, and diver's hands (extending up, then plunging down) have appeared in other works, as have the impressions of the artist's person. Eating utensils also feature in his recent work.

The painting was sent for sale by a Connecticut collector, and bought anonymously within estimate.

There was also an impressive price for the grand master of abstract painting, Jackson Pollock, although not a record, when his "Number 31", a classic panorama of multicoloured dribbles fet-

ched \$3.5 million (£1.8 million).

Other records were for lesser known American artists such as Wayne Thiebaud, whose pop painting of "Heart Cakes" (two tea cakes made with white icing, and red hearts as decoration, on St Valentine's Day) sold for double its estimate at \$605,000 (£333,529) to the Californian trade.

Richard Estes's "Baby Doll Lounge", a photo-realistic oil painting of an American street scene with the above named premises in the centre, sold for \$550,000 (£294,117), \$100,000 above upper estimate, and a record for the artist.

The sale totalled \$18.2 million (£9.7 million), with all but 1 per cent sold.

The Andy Warhol sale is over. Sotheby's completed its 10-day auction of the pop artist's sprawling collection on Tuesday, totalling \$25.3 million (£13.5 million); more

than double the pre-sale estimate.

The last day marked a number of impressive prices. A series of five scribbled drawings by the German conceptual artist, Joseph Beuys, who like Warhol died recently, fetched \$121,000 (£64,706), six times over estimate, while a large photograph by and of the British "living sculptures" Gilbert & George sold for \$115,000 (£61,765) against an estimate of up to \$35,000.

Sotheby's also completed its two-part contemporary sale in New York on Tuesday, totalling \$4.8 million (£2.6 million) with 93 per cent sold.

Artefacts and documents from a time capsule, which rested for 70 years on the sea bed off Devon, are on show at Sotheby's Sussex, from Monday until May 21, before their sale there on May 26.

They include letters from Lord Kitchener and Lord Rosebery, Indian brassware and religious figures, and were discovered in 80 cases belonging to Lord Carmichael, Governor of Bengal, in the wreck of the liner, SS Medina, sunk by a German submarine in 1917.

£180m waste on roads upkeep

'Exotic' practices attacked

By David Walker

If the road-gritters were out, two things were likely. The council highway maintenance foreman was with the wife of a gritter driver in one area, and in another, the chargehand's dog had slipped on the ice.

In an investigation of highway maintenance by the Audit Commission which discovered that £180 million could be saved by local authorities, accountants uncovered those "scientific" reasons for sending out the salting lorries.

Presenting the commission's survey of local authority road maintenance, published today, its controller, Mr Howard Davies, would not name the councils concerned, but added those were not the only "exotic working practices" uncovered.

He said the commission's job was to identify possible savings, which he estimated at 16 per cent of spending on roads. Auditors were now carrying out follow-up studies for councillors to act upon.

Mr Davies added that the report was not a recipe for cuts in government grants. Only if the recently increased provision for road upkeep by the Department of Transport was

maintained was there a chance of averting serious disrepair. Spending per kilometre of local authority road in England dropped in real terms by 10 per cent during the ten years to 1986, in marked contrast to increased expenditure on motorway and trunk road repairs.

The commission's report is the first comprehensive survey of a matter which consistently ranks high among public anxieties about council services.

It begins: "Britain used to be well known for the quality of its minor roads. But in recent years, the balance has shifted. Central government has invested heavily in motorways and trunk roads, and less emphasis has been placed on the secondary roads maintained by local authorities."

One reason is that many councils do not know enough about their roads and verges and their state of repair. County councils maintain about 239,000 kilometres and London and metropolitan boroughs a further 49,000 kilometres; average maintenance bills are £9,100 per kilometre of A roads and £3,200 per kilometre of minor

road. Many simply patch road surfaces cheaply when complete resurfacing is required.

Mr Davies said: "The problem is that some councils are simply not spending enough and too many are spending the available money inefficiently."

The commission recommends:

● Repeal of Section 42 of the Highways Act, 1980 to remove the inefficient overlap between the responsibilities of county and shire district councils for minor roads.

● Minimum national standards, with guidelines on what repair and maintenance should cost each council.

● The Government maintain its annual allocation to councils of £1.1 billion for road maintenance for the foreseeable future.

● Councils should computerize their highways departments and spend in accordance with the state of roads rather than the previous year's budget.

● More work going to competitive tender. Improving the Condition of Local Authority Roads. The National Picture (Stationery Office: £4.50).

Sellafield's safety tested in exercise

By Peter Davenport

Emergency procedures ordered in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster were put to their first test in an exercise at the Sellafield nuclear waste reprocessing plant in Cumbria yesterday.

The exercise, code-named Oscar II, was the biggest staged at the site, British Nuclear Fuels Ltd said.

Its main function was to test the effectiveness of an off-site centre for co-ordinating the response of emergency services and local authorities responsible for initiating radiation protection measures and an evacuation.

The centre is in a company hostel at Summergrove, nine miles north of Sellafield and, according to officials yesterday, far enough away to be safe in foreseeable circumstances.

In the exercise a pipe bridge which would be carrying highly radioactive liquid round the site was fractured by a falling crane, leading to a radiation leak. The exercise was witnessed by Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Energy.

Dr Roger Berry, director of health, safety and environ-

mental protection for British Nuclear Fuels, said: "It is a learning exercise for us. We do not expect to get it 100 per cent right the first time."

After the Chernobyl accident in the Soviet Union two years ago, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, on instructions from the Government, devised a three-tier system of exercises to test emergency procedures.

Yesterday's incident was at Level Two. The Government's nuclear emergency briefing room in London was staffed.

It was the first test in England of the procedures. An exercise was held earlier this year at Torness nuclear power station in the Highland region.

A Level Three exercise, which also monitors the role of government departments and ministers, has yet to be staged.

Although representatives of all the agencies who would be involved in reacting to a big incident took part yesterday it was, in effect, a paper exercise with no turnout of police, fire or ambulance services and no full-scale evacuation of the site and areas near by.

MARKS & SPENCER

COT BUMPERS

In the light of recent publicity Marks & Spencer wish to assure customers that tape lengths on St. Michael cot bumpers now on sale are a maximum of 8 inches (20 cm) long.

As an extra safety precaution customers may wish to examine their cot bumper and shorten any longer tapes to this length.

Any customers still concerned about the safety of a bumper purchased from Marks & Spencer should contact their local store.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Angola talks end on positive note

Four-power talks in London on ending the Angolan civil war and settling the Namibia dispute ended yesterday on a more positive note than had been expected (Andrew McEwen writes). A follow-up meeting would be held in Africa in "weeks rather than months", one delegate said.

The 35 delegates, representing the United States, South Africa, Angola and Cuba issued a statement saying that "progress was made". Dr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State, said there was a substantial gap between the time-scale proposed by Angola and Cuba for a withdrawal of Cuban troops and Pretoria's demands. But he said the proposal amounted to an opening bid and there appeared to be a willingness on all sides to negotiate.

● LISBON: Angolan officials denied claims by Unita rebels yesterday that the two sides had held high-level talks.

Envoy kidnap alert

Bogotá — Security has been tightened for embassies and their staffs here by the Colombian Government after a wave of kidnappings of foreign diplomats by a pro-Cuban guerrilla group (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

In a series of actions on Tuesday, the left-wing National Liberation Army (ELN) kidnapped the press officer of the French Embassy and two Swiss executives of the Colombian-Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Bogotá, as well as West Germany's honorary consul in the cities of Medellín and Bucaramanga. Police foiled the kidnapping of the French Vice-Consul in Cali and the Panamanian Consul in Cartagena. In a statement ELN said those kidnapped would be released within a few days.

Nouméa clash feared

Sydney — French troops were last night put on full alert in the crisis-stricken Pacific territory of New Caledonia after threats of terrorist attacks in the three days until the final round on Sunday of the French Presidential election (Christopher Morris writes). In Nouméa reinforcements joined the CRS riot squads, which now patrol the streets.

Right-wing activists warned of attacks against leaders of the Kanak separatists and a previously unheard of organization, the National Committee Against Independence, claimed responsibility for a grenade attack which destroyed the car of an official of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front.

Kabul delay attacked

Islamabad — With only 11 days to the start of the Afghanistan settlement under the terms of the Geneva accord, a Pakistan foreign ministry spokesman has accused the Kabul Government of doing little to prepare for the return of Afghan refugees and for the establishment of a broad-based government.

Siamese twin 'stable'

Johannesburg — Mphonyana Mthibela, the smaller of South Africa's black Siamese twins, both girls, who were separated on Tuesday had treatment yesterday for what was described as "superficial bleeding", but was said later to be in a stable condition (Michael Hornsby writes). Mphonyana's stronger twin sister, Mpho, to whom she was joined at the head, was said to be "doing well".

Marcos plea fails

Manila — At an emergency meeting yesterday the Philippines Government decided to send condolences but not to allow former President Ferdinand Marcos to return to the country for the funeral of his mother (A Correspondent writes). Mrs Josefa Edralin Marcos, aged 95, who remained in the Philippines due to illness after the Marcos family was expelled in 1986, died in a Manila hospital yesterday.

Iran-Saudi rift grows

As Iranian diplomats expelled from Saudi Arabia arrived home yesterday after the breaking of diplomatic relations, Tehran claimed that Saudi police had forcibly entered its embassies in Jeddah and Riyadh the previous day and seized diplomatic documents (Hassan Teimourian writes). The Saudi Government immediately denied the allegations.

Jet deal approved

Bonn — West German participation in the European Fighter Aircraft, a joint project with Britain, Italy and Spain, passed the first parliamentary hurdle yesterday when it was approved by the Bundestag defence committee.

Gdansk unrest spreads amid compromise move

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

The Government and the Solidarity union yesterday suggested minor compromises aimed at bringing about some form of dialogue in Poland's most serious industrial unrest since martial law.

At the same time, Poland's Roman Catholic bishops sent mediators to Gdansk and Nowa Huta where talks between management and striking workers have failed to resolve the disputes.

Mr Zdzisław Sadowski, the deputy Polish Prime Minister, and architect of the Government's unpopular economic reform, also took a less inflexible line when he said yesterday that he would be prepared to meet with Solidarity leaders but only on "an unofficial, informal basis".

This was seen as the beginning of a policy of compromise by the Government which has refused to recognize the Solidarity movement and

banned the union in 1981. Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity leader, told strikers at Gdansk yesterday that he was prepared to step down from any negotiations if this would bring about a settlement to the four-day-old strike there.

The strikers at the Lenin Shipyard are demanding pay rises and recognition of Solidarity.

"Of course, someone does not want me to be at the negotiating table," Mr Walesa said, "but I am not fighting just for my own cause here."

His supporters cheered him as he greeted at the same time a delegation from the neighbouring Repair Shipyard which announced yesterday it was also going on strike.

Mr Walesa, who was speaking before attending his grandmother's funeral, rounded on a reporter from the official PAP news agency and accused the agency of distorting his

statements. "We want conciliation but there must be truth," he said. He added to tumultuous applause: "But if you continue lying, there will be no change."

The shipyard, where 7,000 workers have downed tools, was reminiscent yesterday of the days of Solidarity's birth there in 1980. The cordons laid by riot police on Tuesday night was withdrawn at 4am yesterday. Wives and children of the strikers passed through the gate — festooned with flowers and Solidarity banners — to join the men who were still wearing blue boiler suits and yellow helmets after spending a second night at the shipyard.

Earlier, Mr Walesa had joined the strikers to address them in his shirt sleeves. "I am prepared to end the strike immediately as I recognize that Poland is in a difficult economic situation but the authorities refuse to co-operate. I tried to see the

management this morning but I was banned from entering the premises by plain-clothes policemen. This is not a very courteous way to treat us," he said.

Asked if Soviet press criticism of the strikers yesterday had dampened his enthusiasm, he replied in his staccato way of speaking: "Those articles in Moscow were written months ago. They need to catch up."

Mr Walesa thought it unlikely the authorities would resort to force. "Tanks will not help the Polish economy nor will smashing these gates enable our country to catch up."

Outside the canteen, where Mr Walesa held impromptu news conferences, dozens of workers had fallen asleep over cups of tea. Those who had gathered at the gate were defiant although as food hampers and bags of milk were passed through the shipyard's railings, and

cigarettes were lobbed over the gates by the crowd outside, the mood was one of aggression.

"If necessary we will go on for months. All Poland is watching this shipyard to give a lead. The authorities eventually must agree to some form of negotiation," a young man, tired but relaxed, said.

But two other workers said they would return to work if they were offered pay rises, irrespective of the outcome on the issue of Solidarity.

On Tuesday night, the ruling Politburo sounded a conciliatory note saying it "understood the plight and grievances of many of the workers". The Government was "working towards more freedom in Poland" although it would "not tolerate any threat to public order".

Despite the intervention of the church yesterday, it is now for General Jaruzelski's men to rise to the challenge of finding a solution.

Budget crisis sours victory for Dukakis

From Michael Binyon, Washington

After his landslide victories in Ohio and Indiana, Governor Michael Dukakis yesterday held urgent consultations with advisers in Massachusetts, where a budget crisis threatens to cast a shadow over his claim to have managed the state's economic miracle.

An unexpected shortfall of \$77 million (\$41 million) in revenue has created a potential deficit, giving Mr Dukakis the unenviable choice of raising taxes or cutting spending on social services. State law does not allow Massachusetts to have a deficit.

Both Democrats and Republicans in the state have criticized Mr Dukakis's handling of the budget. A slowdown in the economy, which had been growing at the rate of 10 per cent, has already forced him to defer \$233 million in spending in the current financial year. His advisers have warned him that he now faces a further shortfall of \$40 million in 1989.

The issue has embarrassed Mr Dukakis just as he appears to be consolidating his lead in the Democratic presidential race. The Rev Jesse Jackson, challenged to produce details of his proposals, has turned the tables on his rival.

The issue is also sure to be trumpeted by Vice-President George Bush and the Republicans. It also gives ammunition to those who have criticized Mr Dukakis's long absences from Boston while on the campaign trail.

Mr Dukakis won impressively in the Mid-West on Tuesday, beating Mr Jackson by 70 to 22 per cent in Indiana and 63 to 27 per cent in Ohio. In the District of Columbia, however, Mr Jackson, as expected, won overwhelmingly.

The district is 70 per cent black, and Mr Jackson won 80 per cent of the vote. But his support among whites now appears to be in a decline. In Ohio Mr Jackson won 17 per cent of the white vote and in Indiana he won only 13 per cent.

Mr Dukakis gained about 180 delegates in the three contests, giving him a commanding lead over Mr Jackson, with about 1,500, only 600 short of the 2,081 needed to win the Democratic nomination. Mr Jackson has about 920 delegates.

Mr Dukakis has also been picking up support from the caucus states as they move slowly from tier to tier in their selection process. He is also winning "super delegates" at a faster rate — party leaders and elected officials who will tip the balance at the convention in Atlanta.

With characteristic caution, Mr Dukakis said yesterday: "We're getting there. But we still have a long way to go, and obviously we've got to keep working." He has moved to broaden his base, drawing in the support of activists and staff of those Democrats who have dropped out of the race or suspended their campaigns, among them Mr Richard Moe, a senior adviser to Congressman Richard Gephardt, and Mr Kirk O'Donnell, director of the Centre for National Policy.

Mr Jackson, who has angrily rejected hints from his campaign manager and political advisers that he has now all but conceded defeat, has promised to stay in the race. But he is now expected to concentrate his time and up to \$3 million on the last and biggest primary, in California.

IRA protesters jeer Queen in Sydney



Protesters confronting the Queen in Sydney yesterday, but the incident failed to mar her enjoyment of a walkabout later.

Extra police after security lapse

From Christopher Morris, Sydney

A glaring security lapse allowed pro-IRA demonstrators to get within touching distance of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday as they arrived in Sydney.

Police chiefs and government officials watched helplessly from 100 yards away as a small group of Irish men and women in the crowd suddenly unfurled banners, waved placards and shouted abuse as the royal couple drove past in an open-top Rolls Royce.

"Murderers, murderers," they yelled. "British troops out of Ireland."

The Queen seemed unperturbed. The Duke, who had been waving to the crowd, frowned angrily in the direction of the protesters standing behind a barrier less than 3 ft away from the car.

The demonstrators incensed other people in the crowd. They intervened, trying to tear up the banners, and some blows were exchanged. Heavily outnumbered, the demonstrators left the area just before police arrived.

Extra police were immediately drafted into Darling Harbour in case of further trouble.

Visit of the Japanese Prime Minister

Pledge to West on role

By Andrew McEwen

Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Prime Minister of Japan, yesterday pledged his country's determination to strengthen its links with Europe and to take a much greater part in world affairs. He announced an "international co-operation initiative".

He said it was Japan's responsibility to play a diplomatic and financial role in helping to resolve regional conflicts, even though its constitution precluded any direct military involvement.

His speech in London was seen as a further step away from the introspection and lack of self-confidence which has marked Tokyo's approach to foreign policy.

It was made immediately before his talks with Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

and seemed designed to focus them on global issues rather than thorny Anglo-Japanese trade problems. He made only indirect references to Britain's concerns about restricted access to Japanese markets.

Mr Takeshita described his new policy as "co-operation for peace" and said it was part of a three-point international initiative. There were to be increased cultural exchanges and expansion of Japan's foreign aid. On the cultural front, he said he would promote interchange between different parts of the world.

He proposed a new fellowship programme to allow European scientists and researchers to work in Japan for a year, a working holiday scheme for young Japanese and Europeans, and expansion of a scheme which, in

1988, will involve 1,500 people from English-speaking countries spending a year teaching English in Japan. The teaching of Japanese in Europe would receive increased support.

He said Japan's \$10 billion (about £5.5 billion) overseas development budget for 1988 was the largest in the world and Tokyo was implementing its earlier plan to recycle \$30 billion over three years.

But he laid the main stress on political co-operation, and the importance of the partnership between Japan, Europe and the United States. He said that while links between Japan and the US, and between the US and Europe were strong, those between Japan and Europe "have perhaps not been close enough".

Leading article, page 13

Tokyo puts case for closer links

Extracts from the speech of the Japanese Prime Minister in London yesterday: "It is of utmost importance that the bilateral relations of Japan, Europe and the United States... fulfil their responsibilities... It cannot be denied, however, that the relations between Japan and Europe... have perhaps not been close enough... we must not allow this state of affairs to continue."

"Japan is firmly committed to the furtherance of world peace, and its constitution does not permit it to extend any military co-operation. This does not mean, however, that Japan should stand idly by with regard to international peace. I believe Japan... should extend co-operation to the utmost of its ability..."

"I intend to promote interchange among the various cultures of the world, while encouraging the preservation of each nation's precious culture... I would like to initiate a new fellowship programme under which European scientists and researchers would carry out research in Japan for about one year."

"In 1988 Japan will invite approximately 1,500 young people from Britain, the US and other English-speaking countries (to teach English in Japan for one year)..."

"Solidarity and unity are indispensable for the safeguard of the values of freedom and democracy which are shared by all the countries of the West. I take this opportunity to reiterate that the security of the West is indivisible..."

Incursion into Lebanon Israel deflects criticism

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israel's expensive and dangerous incursion into South Lebanon on Monday night is beginning to look suspiciously like a public relations exercise.

News of the coming invasion seems to have been deliberately leaked to American television networks even before it began. Once it was under way, stories about the troops' restrained behaviour have featured prominently in the reports by the few trusted Israeli journalists allowed in with the Army.

In the occupied territories three Palestinians were shot dead and several others wounded. Curfews were reimposed after demonstrations in Gaza and the West Bank.

Yesterday a general strike paralysed the territories and troops had to be deployed to try to head off the kind of trouble which so often comes when work stops. The "uprising" is continuing, if somewhat subdued, but the world's media attention has switched to highlight Israeli behaviour in South Lebanon.

Israel is happy about that. Mr Abba Eban, the dovish elder statesman, said that the invasion was "much more orthodox" than what was going on in the territories. The world might condemn Israel for it, he said, but it was a different quality of complaint to those about the unrest.

Condemnations did come quickly, but they were relatively low key. The White House "deplored" the invasion, and took the opportunity of criticizing Syria at the same time by saying the best thing would be for all foreign forces to withdraw from Lebanon. The Foreign Office — which was described by the "Jerusalem Post" yesterday as "that dispenser of moral advice to the fractious" — said the invasion showed how useless it was for Israel to maintain a buffer force inside Lebanon.

These remarks were mild compared to what has been

said about Israeli behaviour in the territories, and there could even be a sneaking respect for the Israeli view that it has the right to take the initiative against the persistent attacks.

Militarily, however, it is questionable whether the invasion has served any useful purpose beyond that of a field exercise for the troops. There have been more attempts at infiltration recently, and they have been relatively more successful. In eight attacks this year, 17 Palestinians have been killed, but they managed to shoot five Israeli soldiers. This is a much more even ratio than has been usual.

It is also obvious that the in-

vasion has served any useful purpose beyond that of a field exercise for the troops. There have been more attempts at infiltration recently, and they have been relatively more successful. In eight attacks this year, 17 Palestinians have been killed, but they managed to shoot five Israeli soldiers. This is a much more even ratio than has been usual.

Militarily, however, it is questionable whether the invasion has served any useful purpose beyond that of a field exercise for the troops. There have been more attempts at infiltration recently, and they have been relatively more successful. In eight attacks this year, 17 Palestinians have been killed, but they managed to shoot five Israeli soldiers. This is a much more even ratio than has been usual.

The exercise is a dangerous gamble because, despite repeated assurances from the Army and senior ministers, there must be a possibility of a clash with Syrian troops which could escalate. There was the near certainty, which became fact yesterday, that the militia would resist with the risk that this could trap the invaders in the same way as in 1982.

The only obvious advantage, therefore, seems to be public relations. Inside Israel there is near total support for the mission. The right-wing would like to see the buffer zone extended and fenced, while the left wants the Army out as quickly as possible. But all around there is support for a move to show by strength that infiltration is suicidal.

Among the beleaguered settlements of the border, which have been increasingly nervous since the bulk of the Israeli Army pulled back from Lebanon in 1985, there is a feeling of relief but it is tempered by realism. Few if any of the kibbutzniks believe the infiltration attempts will stop as a result of the operation.

Even the Government seems to agree. Yesterday it announced a £1 million plan for improving cultural activities along the border.

Part of the money is to go on emergency kits for children. They include handicrafts, games and cassettes for the children to use while waiting in air-raid shelters. There are also to be more psychological services to deal with the traumas of living on the frontier.

Parliament, page 10

To compete or collaborate: that is the question

A powerful plea for a new era in Japanese-European relations was made yesterday by the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, in his speech at the Mansion House. The essence of his argument was that the trilateral relationship between Japan, Europe and the United States is of the utmost importance for the West, and that the weak side of this triangle is between Japan and Europe.

But how far would a closer relationship between Japan and Western Europe be realistic? How far, indeed, would such a relationship be in Europe's interest?

In some respects Japan and Europe are competitors at least as much as they are collaborators. They are in broad terms competitors for American attention.

The pattern of international power and influence will be affected considerably in coming decades by whether the United States decides in simplistic terms that the Pacific is the region of the future,

and that the links with Europe are merely those of sentiment and tradition.

This competition takes a more specific form on security issues. Japan and Europe are inevitably vying with each other for American resources. This will become very evident if the next President of the United States is forced to cut back on American troops abroad. It will then be a question of whether to reduce their numbers in Europe or the Far East.

One of the reasons why the Japanese are keen to get closer to Europe is that they fear they will lose the battle for as it is fought on a bilateral basis. The Americans, they believe, will always keep more in touch with Europeans for reasons of culture and language. The way in which the United States was initially prepared to allow the Soviet Union to keep a hundred SS20s in Asia, while scrapping all those in Europe, seemed to the Japanese a prime example of how they are



Geoffrey Smith

accorded a lower priority in American thinking. The only way to counter that, it appears to them, is to be more of an integral part of the general Western dialogue.

On other issues as well they believe that the best way to influence the United States is through Europe, or at least in company with Europe. But it cannot be in the European interest to be associated too

closely with Japan in the struggle against American trade protection.

On industrial trade, though not on agriculture, American wrath is directed principally against Japan. Retaliation is likely to be focused mainly on Japanese trade. Why should Europe interpose itself in the line of fire because the Japanese will not open their market sufficiently?

So there are a number of immediate, if narrow, reasons why the links cannot become too close. There is always likely to be a certain tension in the relationship.

But there are also broader, more long-term reasons for welcoming Mr Takeshita's initiative.

On security issues our ultimate interests are complementary. As he suggested yesterday, "stability in Asia and the Pacific is also a matter of great interest for the countries of Europe".

We both have an interest in the long run in an ordered and

ANC guerrillas are sentenced to hang for landmine deaths

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Two black guerrillas of the outlawed African National Congress were yesterday sentenced to multiple death sentences for their part in landmine incidents in 1985.

The sentences were given by the circuit court in Messina, a small town on South Africa's border with Zimbabwe.

Mthetheli Mncube, aged 28, received a triple death sentence from Mr Justice J.P.O. de Villiers and two assessors for laying a mine which killed a black man in a cement truck in November, 1985, and for shooting dead two security branch policemen in a subsequent escape attempt.

Mzondile Nondula, aged 25, was sentenced to hang six times — one sentence for each of the six members of two white families whose open-backed truck detonated a landmine laid by him on a dirt track to a farm near the border in December, 1985. Both men

were also sentenced to effective 25-year jail terms on various counts of attempted murder and terrorism. Leave to appeal was granted.

The six-month trial arose out of 14 landmine incidents in the border area near Messina between the end of 1985 and early last year.

The judge dismissed the argument of defence counsel that the two accused were "men trained as soldiers by the ANC who believed they were under military orders" and that extenuating circumstances therefore existed which warranted a lesser penalty than hanging.

It was the second trial involving young black ANC operatives to end this week. On Monday, Gordon Webster, aged 24, was sentenced to an effective 25 years in prison after being convicted of murder, attempted murder and 12 counts of terrorism by the Pietermaritzburg Supreme

Court in Natal. The judge accepted that there were extenuating circumstances.

Webster was convicted of various sabotage bombings, including one which killed a police colonel. In May, 1986, he was freed by armed police guard in hospital and recaptured only in September of last year.

He said he had come back into the country to carry out "a far-fetched and silly" plan to take hostages in order to force the authorities to release one of his rescuers, Robert McBride, who is now in jail awaiting execution.

In a third, still unfinished, trial in the Eastern Transvaal town of Bethal, in which three alleged ANC guerrillas face charges of terrorism and treason, police officers testified that there was a spy at ANC headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, as recently as last month.

Trial spotlights border war

By Shamus Johnson

In Messina, South Africa's northern frontier town, court proceedings have lifted a veil on direct military engagement between the South African Defence Force and African National Congress guerrillas along the banks of the Limpopo River.

The trial also illustrated the ebb and flow of the ANC's campaign of armed insurgency against the Pretoria Government.

The proceedings provided a unique window on what one state witness described as a "low-intensity war situation" in the border zone.

Ordinarily reporting on military activity is ruled out by South Africa's Defence Act, but court records are in the public domain. Fighting within South Africa's borders is rarely disclosed.

Lying about 350 miles north of Johannesburg, Messina stands on the outer edge of white-controlled Africa, within walking distance of independent Zimbabwe. The

trial there recalled the period of 1983-86, the high-water mark of unrest in South Africa's scattered black townships, and the time of an unprecedented escalation of the ANC's "armed struggle".

The landmine campaign in the Messina district was a component of the latter.

During the six-month trial, the courtroom in the white town was filled with members of the farming community, and relatives of the blast victims. Racial tension in the area is tangible.

The convicted guerrillas, Mthetheli Mncube, aged 28, originally of Soweto, and Mzondile Nondula, aged 25, of Queenstown, re-entered South Africa separately after being trained by the military wing of the ANC, *Umkhonto we Sizwe* (Spear of the Nation).

In court, Mncube — whose ANC name is "Caesar" — and Nondula — "Gaba" — repeatedly asserted their status as "disciplined soldiers" engaged

in a war, and refused to denounce the ANC. Both were in leg-irons.

Since the landmine campaign, little news of continuing conflict has filtered out, and the emphasis has shifted to bomb blasts in urban areas. The inexorable transition of the frontier region from simple veld farmland to "operational zone" — it is now known as the *Soutpansberg Militaire Gebied* (Military Area) — makes the task of the guerrillas that much more difficult.

Local farmers and their families undergo intensive weapons training, and a sophisticated communications network is in place. Farmers receive substantial government subsidies to stay in the area.

In court, Mncube related how his group infiltrated South Africa in 1985 via Zambia and Zimbabwe in order to check South African Defence Force bases and patrol patterns in the area.

Battle of the Marne to woo voters



Enthusiastic supporters competing for the attention of M Jacques Chirac during an election rally in Lille, northern France.

Final push in Chirac campaign

From Susan MacDonald, Chateau-Thierry, France

This pretty town on the edge of the Champagne country north-east of Paris suffered badly from the heavy fighting in the Battle of the Marne during the First World War.

This week it suffered an invasion of another sort when the Chirac entourage descended as part of the Prime Minister's gruelling programme which takes in three towns a day during this last week of the presidential election campaign.

The assault on Chateau-Thierry took the same form as those on other country towns: fly in from lunchtime meeting elsewhere; a quick welcoming ceremony; a rapid walk down the main shopping street; rousing two-minute speech



from the steps of the town hall; and departure by air to address a large public evening meeting in a town hundreds of miles distant.

M Jacques Chirac's unbounded enthusiasm is still intact, but the permanent tan has become deeper as the signs of fatigue have become more

evident. A tall, attractive man, he is at his best shaking hands, kissing babies and making forceful speeches. In between he tends to look confused and lost.

Chateau-Thierry is Union pour la Démocratie Française country. The party is the more moderate right-wing group which, with M Chirac's *Rassemblement pour la République*, forms France's governing coalition. They supported the other right-wing candidate, M Raymond Barre, who lost in the first-round voting and then pledged to support the Prime Minister in this Sunday's run-off.

In Chateau-Thierry this demonstration of right-wing unity was purely superficial.

Local and national Barre party dignitaries had turned out in force but it was obvious their hearts were not in it.

"We came here because we have a debt to pay. M Barre promised our support," said one regional councillor.

It is acknowledged that M Chirac's campaign has been the slickest and the best, but the frenzy of the final moments seems also to have shown that the more he has exposed himself to people the less impressed they are.

M Chirac is tonight in Marseilles where the National Front vote was high. Tomorrow he holds a meeting with former President Giscard, while M Mitterrand holds a Friday rally in Toulouse.

Paris expels Syrian who tried to free hostages

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

In a new twist to the saga involving three French hostages in Lebanon, Paris authorities have used anti-terrorist legislation to expel a Paris-based Syrian previously involved in attempts to secure their release.

The expulsion of Mr Ousmane Adham late on Tuesday appears to wind up a complex scramble to make political capital out of the kidnappings before the presidential election on Sunday.

With the collapse of negotiations to free

two diplomats, M Marcel Carton and M Marcel Fontaine, and a journalist, M Jean-Paul Kauffmann — who were seized in 1985 — already causing political reverberations, Mr Adham's abrupt departure is certain to fuel speculation.

Described as a wealthy and influential businessman, Mr Adham holds a Syrian diplomatic passport. In March 1986, when the previous Socialist Government was seeking to free the hostages, Mr Adham acted as an intermediary.

Nothing came of this, but after the election of the present French Govern-

ment, Mr Adham was apparently responsible for a highly controversial article in a pro-Syrian magazine.

This asserted that M Jacques Chirac and M Charles Pasqua — the Interior Minister whose name is on the expulsion order and who manages the Chirac presidential campaign — had pleaded with contacts close to the kidnappers to delay any release until after the elections.

In return, the magazine claimed, France would have provided Iran with new military hardware. These allegations were angrily denied.

Pravda accused of unfair attack

Moscow — *Pravda*, announcing that it had received about 1,000 letters since publishing a repudiation of a conservative manifesto a month ago, admitted that some correspondents had accused the paper of muzzling opposition forces (A Correspondent writes).

The letters condemned *Pravda* for abandoning *glasnost* and said that last month's editorial attacking the conservative daily *Sovetskaya Rossiya* was undemocratic.

"Lenin never closed the mouths of other people," one person wrote from Khabarovsk. Another writer said the article was like "a beating" given to someone for expressing a view. But *Pravda* defended its editorial, as a response to "positions of dogmatic thinking".

Health chief

Geneva (Reuters) — The World Health Organization endorsed the appointment of Dr Hiroshi Nakajima of Japan as its new director-general at its general assembly.

Cash shortage

Peking (Reuters) — A man who went to get cash from his bank account was told he would have to wait until others made a deposit because the bank was out of money.

Basque bomb

San Sebastian (Reuters) — A bomb destroyed a car showroom in the Basque town of Oyarzun. Suspected separatist guerrillas telephoned a warning and no one was injured.

Afghan talks

Delhi — President Najibullah of Afghanistan arrived here for a three-day visit at the invitation of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister.

Tamils repent

Colombo (AFP) — Sri Lanka freed 50 Tamil rebels who promised to renounce violence and accept the peace accord with India.

Trade meeting

The Hungarian Prime Minister, Mr Karoly Grosz, arrived in London for talks on trade and credit for Hungary's ailing economy.

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South Korea unveils tight security plan for Olympic Games

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

There should be no exploding flower pots at the Olympic Games this year, and yachtsmen may rest assured their vessels are unlikely to run into any mines.

After seven years of secret planning and training, the organizers of the Seoul Olympics yesterday unveiled an awesome security apparatus involving 300,000 people that they say will provide the strongest defence against terrorism in Olympic history.

Officials said the operation began in earnest on Monday with the deployment of 16 special task forces, comprising 100,000 police and military personnel, around the Olympic stadium, the athletes' village and more than 300 other Games-related facilities.

Homes around potential targets are being checked for infiltrators; mail addressed to athletes and officials will be electronically scanned; and frogmen have been assigned to protect the yachting centre at the southern port of Pusan.

Security agents are analysing data on 6,000 known terrorists belonging to 600 international organizations, in co-operation with foreign intelligence services.

South Korea has every reason to guard against a terrorist attack, having remained in a perpetual state of hostilities with North Korea since a truce ended the war between them in 1953.

There have also been recent reports that the resurgent Japanese Red Army is planning to assassinate President Roh and other South Korean leaders during the Games.

To counter the perceived threats, South Korea created a security headquarters under the command of Mr Yook Whan Sik, a retired infantry general. Its ranks are drawn largely from the pervasive Agency for National Security Planning, formerly the Korean CIA.

Mr Yook has marshalled his forces in concentric rings of defence deployed around potential targets. Thus the Olympic yachtsmen will be protected by surveillance aircraft far out to sea, then by large warships, then by fast patrol boats closer to shore, and finally by navy divers. Similar cordons will be thrown around VIPs, spectators and Games venues on shore. Mr Yook reckons there is only one chance in a

hundred of a terrorist attack being attempted, and none at all of it succeeding.

Preserving a relaxed atmosphere amid what amounts to a general military mobilization has been a primary concern. Hence most of the security personnel mingling with the public will be wearing civilian clothes or non-military uniforms.

In the unlikely event that terrorists break through Mr Yook's formidable defences, an elite police force known simply as "Unit 868" will be called into action.

This secretive group, some SAS-trained, went through its paces for invited journalists yesterday. The proceedings began with a demonstration of Taekwondo, a particularly deadly martial art popular in Korea. The star turn came from a fighter who shattered two bricks with his forehead. Outside, another squad attacked a four-storey building with grenades and sub-machine guns designed to fire 20 rounds in two seconds.

"Hopefully we will not be called in," a young lieutenant said. "But if we are, we are ready. We have been well trained."

Debating freedom freely



The Chinese dissident scientist, Mr Fang Lizhi, addressing students and teachers at an informal debate on freedom and democracy at Peking University yesterday. Mr Fang, a well-known astrophysicist who was dismissed from the Communist Party last year after being accused of leading student protests, drew an audience of 500 students (Reuters reports).

Mr Fang spoke of China's need for freedom, democracy and modernization. Students debated with him for more than an hour by a statue of Cervantes on the campus. One of

those present quoted him as saying, in reply to a question about whether he had been barred from making public speeches: "Something like that. They don't like me making speeches." Mr Fang was quoted as saying that intellectuals in China needed freedom and that authorities were still refusing to let him take up a research post in the United States.

He was invited to Peking University by students and teachers to mark its 90th anniversary and the May 4 Movement of 1919, an intellectual revolution led by academics.

Swedes take a fresh look at joining EEC

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Sweden, increasingly anxious that it will miss the boat as 1992 approaches, has begun to revise its position over the EEC.

A debate in Parliament yesterday on policy towards the community revealed a far less hostile line than that previously taken by MPs of the ruling Social Democratic Party and provided a vital barometer of opinion for Mr Ingvar Carlsson, the Prime Minister. Mr Carlsson starts a tour of European cities — including Madrid, Brussels, Bonn and London — on May 13 and will discuss ways in which Sweden can "keep close and continuing contact" with the EEC.

Mr Carlsson will meet Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany on May 18, Mrs Thatcher.

Coincidentally, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will be in Stockholm this weekend for an official visit during which the question of Sweden's relations with the EEC will dominate the agenda.

Sir Geoffrey's speech to a meeting of the International Chamber of Commerce in Stockholm, entitled simply "Europe", is awaited by the nation's top industrialists, who are starting, in the words of Mr Peter Wallenberg, head of the Swedish Federation of Industry, to feel "cold winds" at being excluded from increased European co-operation.

Sir Geoffrey will hold talks with Mr Carlsson and Mr Sten Andersson, the Foreign Minister.

Displaying characteristic Swedish caution, senior diplomats here remain reluctant to discuss the likelihood of any eventual Swedish application to join the EEC. But Mr Carlsson's European trip is seen as part of a "softening up" process, aimed at changing the anti-market stance of his assassinated predecessor, Olof Palme, who argued that belonging to a body so closely linked with Nato would compromise Swedish neutrality.

All the signs are that the Social Democratic leadership, headed by the pragmatic Mr

Carlsson, is moving away from that position.

Earlier this year the Government announced the appointment of a Cabinet committee for European affairs, headed by Mr Carlsson and the establishment of a Council for European Affairs, comprising leading industrialists and trade unionists.

It also announced the appointment of Mr Ulf Dinkelspiel, of the Foreign Ministry's trade department, as chief negotiator for European affairs. It is Mr Dinkelspiel who will present Sweden's application for EEC membership if it becomes government policy.

An integration secretariat has also been established to deal with questions concerning 1992.

In case there should be any doubt left after all these appointments as to the seriousness with which the country views European integration, an "under-secretariat" of senior civil servants has been formed.

Industry sees these moves as socialist shilly-shallying, as it may not be long before the Swedish Federation of Industries reverses its present neutral position on EEC membership. A poll published yesterday in the business daily, *Dagens Industri*, revealed that 91 per cent of the country's industrial leaders now favour membership.

Mr Carl Bildt, the conservative opposition leader, came out firmly in favour of membership in an article in the daily *Svenska Dagbladet*, published yesterday to coincide with the parliamentary debate. He attacked the Government for hesitating and warned: "If Sweden wants to keep its position as a developed welfare state, full membership of the EEC's inner market is a necessity."



Mr Carl Bildt. Moving away from Palme position.

Yugoslavian fraud trial

Establishment of Bosnia in dock

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

Twenty-five people, including the brother and nephew of former Vice-President Hamdija Pozderac, go on trial today in connection with Yugoslavia's biggest financial scandal. The affair shook the country and toppled many politicians in Bosnia last year.

The trial is taking place in Bihac, a once thriving town which is now bankrupt as a result of the fraudulent issue of promissory notes worth nearly \$1,000 million (£535 million) upon which the prosperity of the region was built.

The fraud was uncovered last year when a Belgrade newspaper obtained information indicating that something was going on in Bosnia and that high-ranking republican officials were trying to hush it all up. Soon it transpired that Agrokomprom, the vast industrial conglomerate which transformed the once backward region into a thriving domain, was built on fraudulent funds. The company's flamboyant president, Mr Fikret Abdic, apparently was able to get away with his financial misdeeds because he had enjoyed the full political support of the men of power in Bosnia, represented by the Pozderac family.

Mr Hakija Pozderac, brother of the former Yugoslav Vice-President, was a powerful political figure in Bosnia whose word carried great weight. He encouraged Agrokomprom's ambitious president to indulge in unrealistic projects. He assured him of the backing of the political establishment and, when the scandal was about to be uncovered, he tried to hush it up.

Scores of lesser local politicians and managers have since been ousted and tried for fraudulent practices. But today's trial is intended to go to the heart of the problem and many observers here see it as a trial of a system which prevailed in Bosnia for decades.

The people in the dock will be those who were able to override the law without ever being brought to account. The Bosnian political scene is in turmoil as a result. Famed until the Agrokomprom scandal for its conservatism and toughness in dealing with

critics and opposition of any sort, the Bosnian establishment has been shaken. At a recent party conference representatives of the Young Communist League launched an assault on privileged people blocking the appointment of younger officials nominated to top posts.

They also demanded that, because of the extraordinary political consequences of the Agrokomprom scandal, the entire Bosnian political establishment should be sacked.

Mr Abdic and his associates are facing a series of charges, including undermining the country's economic system, misusing their office, engaging in illegal transactions and weakening Yugoslavia's stability.

Until the scandal came into the open, Mr Abdic was regarded by his countrymen in general and the people of the Bihac region in particular as a "god" to whom they owed their prosperity. In less than 15 years he had transformed the region by establishing what was regarded as one of the most successful agro-industrial firms in Yugoslavia. Last year, the May Day procession which filed past the Bosnian dignitaries was nearly two miles long, with lorries loaded with rabbits, turkeys, chickens, eggs and biscuits and workers carrying posters which hailed the "Agro-commerce miracle industry". Hoarding on the town's buildings proclaimed that "Fikret is god".

This year, however, the little Bosnian town was totally deserted. A few days ago, several thousand workers staged their second protest march this year demanding bread and work. Out of 12,000 workers employed by Agrokomprom in its heyday 3,000 have now moved elsewhere. 9,000, who repair because they have nowhere to go are living on a pitiful minimum wage.

Meanwhile, the authorities are still undecided whether to bail out the enterprise or let it go under.

Whatever is decided, and even if something of the empire built on fraud can be salvaged, more than half the remaining work force will be redundant.

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10
May 4 1988

THE TIMES THURSDAY MAY 5 1988

PARLIAMENT

Legal Aid Board chief named by the Government

The new Legal Aid Board, which is to take over the administration of the legal aid system in England and Wales, is to be chaired by Mr John Pitts, a retired industrialist, MPs were told.

Sir Nicholas Lyell, the Solicitor General, moving the second reading of the Legal Aid Bill, which sets up the board, said that its task would be to provide a legal aid system that was healthier and more efficient than the present system, a structure which had been outgrown.

Mr John Morris, chief Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, said that the dead hand of the Treasury could be seen on the Bill. Although he welcomed the board, he questioned whether it would be independent from Government financial control.

Sir Nicholas said that the Bill gave effect to decisions announced in the White Paper published in March last year. Its aim was to improve the arrangements for making legal aid and legal advice and assistance available. Efficiency, effectiveness and value for money were the key concepts underlying the Bill.

Legal aid in England and Wales was one of the fastest growing areas of government expenditure. The scheme was approaching its fortieth year and for the first 20 expenditure had not exceeded £100 million a year and help had been provided for a maximum of 150,000 people a year.

Today, spending on legal aid in England and Wales was running at the rate of £450 million a year and about two million people had received help in the past year.

The Bill would replace and consolidate all the existing legal aid legislation. Its aim was to provide the litigant who might

LAW OFFICERS

not otherwise be able to afford it, and to provide to the taxpayer, a system that was efficient, effective and gave the best possible service and value for money.

The principal new feature of the Bill was that it established a Legal Aid Board. The system had outgrown the structure appropriate for it in the early 1950s.

One central body was needed, including among its membership barristers and solicitors as well as experts in management, finance, personnel, administration and the broader forms of advice-giving.

The Lord Chancellor (Lord Mackay of Clashfern) had already announced the setting up

Board posts

The Lord Chancellor, who has appointed Mr John Pitts, who retired last year as chairman and chief executive of the Tioxide Group, to be chairman of the proposed legal aid board, named the following as members: Martin Acland, Diana Beale, Allan Blake, Hilary Bradley, Lynn Devonald, Kenneth Farwell, Suzette Harvel, Geoffrey Hibbert, David Slater, John Smith and Peter Soar.

of a shadow board and he would today be announcing the names of the new chairman and its initial membership. The shadow board would begin work straightaway, preparing to take over early in 1989 the legal aid work at present done by the Law Society.

In the long term, it was envisaged that the board would have overall responsibility for all aspects of legal aid unless there were strong arguments to the contrary.

It would therefore be invited

to look at aspects of legal aid not now dealt with by the Law Society, such as means assessment for civil legal aid and consideration of applications for criminal legal aid. No decisions had yet been taken on the transfer of these functions.

Some concern had been expressed that the board would not be independent of the Government, but he believed that the names which were being announced today would go far to meet these concerns. The Government would continue to set the framework and it would retain control over, for example, financial eligibility limits. But the board would have considerable freedom to manage its affairs in the way it believed best.

It was proposed that the Legal Aid Advisory Committee should remain in being for at least one year and its position would then be reviewed with an entirely open mind by the Lord Chancellor.

The board would be invited to look at the provision of advice and assistance, known as the "green form scheme". Since 1979, expenditure on that area had risen from £12 million to £60 million a year and the number of people receiving help had risen from 300,000 to 1.2 million people a year.

Mr Morris said that the Bill was not a legal aid Bill. It was a money Bill and the dead hand of the Treasury could be seen all over it.

It was said to consolidate the £10 million savings contemplated in the legal aid White Paper. It was aimed to do much more and to ensure a firm Treasury within secure borders but Israel should be ready to extend the same kind of recognition to the representatives of the Palestinian people.

The Opposition welcomed much of the Bill including the setting up of a new legal aid board. But was the board to be independent?



Sir Nicholas Lyell (left) and Mr John Morris, who clashed in the Commons over the new Legal Aid Board



Howe attacks Israeli incursion

Israel's military presence in Lebanon was provocative and a clear threat to the peace in the Middle East, Mr Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during Commons questions.

He urged Israel to withdraw completely from south Lebanon. As a staunch friend of Israel, he wanted to see its survival within secure borders but Israel should be ready to extend the same kind of recognition to the representatives of the Palestinian people.

He was agreeing with Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, who said that it should be made

clear to the Israeli Government that the present incursion into Lebanon would not succeed in ending Palestinian action against Israel.

The only way in which Palestinian action against the Israelis could be brought to an end was through a peaceful settlement involving the Palestinians and that could happen only if Israel followed the advice of its own Foreign Minister, Mr Peres, who wanted an international conference, as did many others.

It was time that Mr Shamir (the Israeli Prime Minister) was told that the secure future of Israel could be obtained only by his stepping aside from his

policy and agreeing to an international conference.

Mr Dennis Walters (Westbury, C) had earlier wondered whether Israel had some unique dispensation to invade and maraud in the lands of its neighbours, to slaughter civilians in the territories it occupied and to assassinate its opponents in sovereign countries such as Tunisia.

Sir Geoffrey agreed that the latest Israeli raid into Lebanon should be condemned, as should the Palestinian incursion into Israel that had preceded it. Violence offered no solution. He expressed horror at the senseless act of terrorism that had led to the death of Abu Jihad.

We all have a duty to use what influence we can to stop the immoral terrorist behaviour of the Israeli Government in the occupied territories. The Government should tighten the screw and use economic pressure.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said: "I do not know any MP who has visited the occupied territories who has come back without precisely that same view. That says something about that lamentable situation. We do not agree that economic sanctions should be used."

Later he added: "All we can do is to continue to make our views known."

English MP for Scots Bill

A Government proposal to put an English MP on a committee considering a Scottish Bill angered Labour MPs, but the Government got its way and the proposal was carried early on Wednesday by 165 votes to 121.

The Government's difficulty had been caused by the illness of Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Perth and Kinross, C), who has been unable to attend the committee considering the School Boards (Scotland) Bill. Because of the shortage of Scottish Conservatives, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, proposed replacing him with an English member.

Mr Frank Dobson, Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs, said that what angered Labour MPs was that the Government had acted so quickly in this case — the committee was set up only two weeks ago — yet had failed to set up the Scottish schools select committee, which should have been established five months ago.

Tax clauses carried

The clause in the Finance (No 2) Bill to reduce the standard rate of income tax to 25 per cent was carried by 256 votes to 201 — Government majority, 55, on Tuesday night. The Commons began the Bill's committee stage.

The clause to reduce the higher rate to 40 per cent was carried by 250 votes to 199 — Government majority, 51.

Press bar profitable

The Press Gallery bar in the House of Commons made a gross profit of £14,935 in the year ended March 31, 1988, on a turnover of £38,790 excluding VAT. A profit had also been made in each of the past five years, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the Commons, said in a written reply.

He said that 393 accredited journalists and their guests, overseas press officers, *Herald* staff and Commons staff posted to the Press Gallery were entitled to use the bar.

Chernobyl assurance

Scientific and veterinary advice has indicated that the level of Chernobyl contamination in Wales presents no health hazard to sheep and will have no effect on their fertility and breeding potential, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, said in a written reply. There was no evidence that lambs born in the North Wales restricted area had a higher incidence of congenital defects than lambs born elsewhere.

Howe's hopes for Kuwait relations

There was no reason why the decision taken that morning to refer the Kuwaiti holding in British Petroleum (BP) to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission should affect the long-established and very close relations between Kuwait and Britain, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said during questions.

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington, Lab) Does he recall the undertaking by the Kuwait Investment Office in London that they would not increase their share in BP?

It is clear that there has been a breach of the undertakings given to the Government. Is it the Foreign Secretary's intention to ignore that and to allow them to secure a takeover?

Sir Geoffrey: That is a matter essentially for the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Lord Young of Gramham). He has decided to refer the Kuwaiti shareholding in BP to the commission. That was an-

nounced by the Office of Fair Trading at 9am today.

Mr James Pawsley (Rugby and Kenilworth, C) Notwithstanding the previous question and answer, will he bear in mind that friendly relations are undermined by referral of the Kuwaiti stake and the calling in of the planning application for the London Bridge City development in the London Dockland Development Corporation?

Sir Geoffrey: I am not qualified to comment on the activities of a planning application, but we see no reason why the decision taken should affect Anglo-Kuwaiti relations which have always been very close, as demonstrated during the hijacking. I hope that that remains so.

Earlier, he had said that the Government was examining the case for a planning application, but we see no reason why the decision taken should affect Anglo-Kuwaiti relations which have always been very close, as demonstrated during the hijacking. I hope that that remains so.

Education Reform Bill RE amendment promised

A new amendment ensuring that the Christian faith will be taught in state schools is to be introduced during report stage of the Education Reform Bill, the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, told peers early on Wednesday.

He said that he had discussed the matter with Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State.

"Such an amendment would provide what is sought. "It would ensure that the Christian faith, so far as we can assure it, is taught for parents who do not withdraw their children for other teaching."

He was speaking on the first day of the Bill's committee stage, which lasted until 4.21am after Lady Cox (C) had moved an amendment of her own calling for RE in all maintained schools to be predominantly Christian.

She expressed thanks to nine bishops for supporting it in a letter to *The Times*.

Education Reform Bill

HOUSE OF LORDS

She said that parents were worried because worship and RE were often secularized and politicized and sometimes meant little more than crude political indoctrination.

One book called *Beginning Religion*, which she was told was widely used, contained macabre and grotesque pictures that could give some children nightmares.

It discussed Shamanism and the Lord's Prayer on the same page.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said that he had a good deal of sympathy with the amendment.

He shared the widespread disquiet about much that passed for RE.

But there was danger of this amendment introducing into the Bill a counter-productive element.

It might be taken as an unwelcome signal by other faiths, not least because they had not been consulted about it.

"I feel it my duty to point out that accidental and unintended damage might be done if we were to approve the amendment as it stands. I do not yet think we have found the right wording."

He was equally concerned that religion and not some substitute for it should be taught.

It should be clear that the Christian religion would be the main but not the exclusive means of doing this.

Lady Cox agreed to withdraw her amendment, but added: "We do not believe that we can compromise on the question of making explicit on the face of the Bill some form of commitment to a clear definition of RE as predominantly Christian."

Farmers lobby Commons

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Farmers warned MPs yesterday that rural communities in Britain were in danger if the green pound was not devalued by at least 9 per cent.

About a hundred representative members of the National Farmers' Union arrived at Westminster to lobby their MPs in advance of today's Commons debate on agriculture.

They claimed, for example, that the strength of the green pound was costing British farmers about £25 a bullock or £14 a tonne of cereal, and that that was having a very serious effect on their livelihoods and on farming communities generally.

Mr David Nash, deputy president of the NFU, said that the imbalance in the value of the green pound cost the British farming industry £800 million last year and that farmers' incomes were now at their second lowest level since the war.

"We have lost 20,000 farmers or farmworkers within the last two years and investment is down 30 per cent in the last two years," he said. As farmers spent less and laid off workers, village and rural life was also beginning to suffer badly.

Mr Nash believed that ministers understood the argument that there was a general discrimination against British farmers, but said that he wanted to see that concern translated into action at European Community level.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Prime Minister. Debate on agriculture.
Lords (3): Education Reform Bill committee stage, second day.

Background men emerge cautiously into light of day

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The photograph accompanying this report is a rarity, if not something unique.

A group portrait of the Government whips, the men who quietly pad the corridors of Westminster keeping Tory MPs in line and the Government's business programme rattling along has probably never before been published. By their nature, whips work in the background and reckon to be doing their job best when they are heard of least.

This has been a traumatic time, therefore, for Mr David Waddington, the Government Chief Whip, his deputy, Mr David Hunt, and their 12 fellow whips in the Commons. A series of Conservative rebellions has been their steepest test since the Tories came to power in 1979 and has forced them into the public eye.

They have come through without suffering the kind of reverse the Government did in 1986, when it was defeated on the second reading of the Shops Bill, designed to extend Sunday trading.

The majority sank from 101 to only 25 on the poll-tax amendment by Mr Michael Bates, designed to extend the principle of ability to pay, but they have seen worse — when it fell to only 17 on top people's pay in the last Parliament, for instance. However, the concentration of controversial first-session measures has now passed to the Lords and Mr Waddington says: "We are going into slightly calmer waters."

Whips are as necessary to the democratic process, Mr Enoch Powell once said, as sewers to civilization. Talk of negotiation through "the usual channels" means the deals they "stitch up" with their opponents in back rooms and bars. That is how the business agenda of the Commons is settled.

By their man management — a mixture of veiled threats and promises, hand-on-shoulder encouragement, and occasionally backside kicking — the Government's majority is maintained. The term whip derives from



A gathering of Conservative Party whips in the Commons (from left): Mr Robert Boscawen (Comptroller of Her Majesty's Household), Mr David Maclean (assistant whip), Mr Kenneth Carlisle (assistant whip), Mr Peter Lloyd (Lord Commissioner of the Treasury), Mr Alan

going on in a particular department were the people to warn the ministers.

Mrs Thatcher knew of the concern over social security well before it reached her Finchley post bag.

The whips are possibly the most exclusive club in London. The atmosphere is collegiate, the effort a team one rare in politics. So, though no formal blackball is employed, the Prime Minister takes care not to appoint as a whip anyone whom the others do not want.

The whips divide up the standing committees between themselves and each liaises too with a particular Whitehall department as well as being

responsible for the Tory MPs in a geographical area such as Yorkshire or East Anglia. The Front Bench, at any hour of morning or night, is never without a whip.

There is no Thatcherite litmus test, however. There are wets and dries in the Thatcher whips' office as well as a deliberate social and geographical mix.

Where it differs most from Labour is in the Tory practice of using the whips' office to bring on the backbench plants, to blood future ministers. Of the present Cabinet, for example, Mr Nigel Lawson, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Mr John Wakeham and Mr John Major have all been whips.

Howarth (assistant whip), Mr Michael Neuber (Lord Commissioner), Mr David Hunt (Treasurer of the Household), Mr Tristan Garel-Jones (Vice Chamberlain of the Household), Mr David Lighthwa (Lord Commissioner), Mr Mark Lennox-Boyd (Lord

Commissioner), Mr Richard Ryder (assistant whip), Mr Stephen Dorrell (assistant whip), Mr Tony Durant (Lord Commissioner), and Mr David Waddington (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Whip) (Photograph: Graham Wood)

As for the whip itself, the piece of paper sent out weekly listing the business and telling Tory MPs when they must turn up, that comes in three grades. Their attendance is "requested", it is "essential" unless they have registered a firm pair (the two-line whip), and it is simply "essential" (the three-line whip).

For Tories without a pair, an inevitable fate for many with a three-figure majority, that means an endless grind, despite the "lesser" system designed to give them one night off in five.

But there won't be much sympathy for whingers from Mr Waddington. As a Home Office

minister in the last Parliament he had no pair and simply worked on in his room at the Commons every night until the place packed up.

But what weapons do the whips have in seeking to keep the restive Tory Party of today in line?

Sir Walter Bromley-Davenport, one of the best remembered Commons characters of post-war years, once physically assailed someone he took to be a Tory MP slipping off with late night votes still to come — only to discover that the gentleman in question was a startled continental ambassador.

Rough stuff is out these days, but whips still have the control

of authorizing foreign trips, and influencing the selection of members for key committees. And Mr Waddington points out that the Chief Whip does not bear the alternative title of the Patronage Secretary for nothing.

He has access to the Prime Minister as often as he wants it. It is no coincidence that his quarters are in No 12 Downing Street, though Mr Waddington does not abuse it. "She'd get pretty bored if I turned up every day."

But he is expected to advise her on Government appointments. Aspiring politicians know very well the penalties of rebellion that become a habit. As Mr Harold Wilson said: "Every dog is allowed one bite."

But the Chief Whip says: "Some of these things don't need to be said. A man on his fourteenth rebellion must realize he hasn't the qualities to be a member of the Government."

Whether it is the new boy anxious to get his first foot on the ladder as a PPS or the ageing shire Tory waiting anxiously for the knighthood that will ensure his wife's appointments at the hairdresser, the subtle threat is there.

By contrast, clumsy scare tactics such as the whips' recent attempt to depict Mr Michael Heseltine as the leader of the poll-tax rebellion and frighten off impressionable young Tories for fear of being "typed" with him, prove counter-productive.

But Mr Waddington concedes that life has become harder for the whips since today's more volatile electorate has made it impossible for ministers relieved of their posts to be offered the immediate consolation of the Lords.

Instead, they remain disgruntled in the Commons, a focus for discontent.

But threats of a Government defeat and likely general election are sometimes used by the whips to concentrate the minds of MPs with marginal seats.

That is why there are fewer rebellions when governments have small majorities.

SPECTRUM

Both an inspiration for the education Bill and a fervent amender of it, Lady Cox is hard at work in the Lords this week

Spark of the right's ideas

I used to be the far left which spawned innumerable little groupings with hard-edged policies and mysterious names. But it is a significant symptom of the political transformations of recent years that today all the most formidable and mysteriously named little groupings are to be found on the far right. To a surprising extent their members are the very same people who used to fulminate in the groupuscules of the left. Lady Cox seems to be on the steering committee of almost every one of them.

There is no mystery about the process which has brought about this migration of the group habit. The driving force behind the Committee for a Free Britain, the Hillgate Group and the like, comes from people who used to be active on the political left, even as far left as the Communist Party, but became disillusioned in the hysterical Seventies, and took their concern for liberty and opportunity to the other end of the political spectrum. Here they exercise their old skills in lobbying for votes and drafting amendments with as much glee as ever. The group is their instinctive mode of self-expression.

Caroline Cox is ubiquitous in this corner of politics. Until the early Seventies she considered herself a natural Labour voter, though she was never embroiled in the excitement of the conspiratorial left. She arrived in the Lords, much to her astonishment,

THE TIMES PROFILE

LADY COX

only five years ago. But she has taken to the arts of lobbying and amendment-drafting like a duck to water.

The Education Reform Bill, which is making its way through its committee stage in the Lords this week, is heavily influenced by her research and campaigning, which has accused state schools of failing their pupils by abandoning traditional standards in favour of undemanding routines and disguised political propaganda. As a parent whose three children all went through the comprehensive system, she cannot be dismissed as a doctrinaire opponent of state education. Nor is she satisfied with the Bill's provisions regarding religious education, one of the questions that occupies her most.

Yesterday morning, six hours after moving an amendment on RE in the House in the small hours, she was looking less the worse for wear than most legislators do after a late sitting. Probably her training as a nurse stands her in good stead when she has to keep irregular hours. A breezy, bustling figure with a fringe and a toothy smile, she has

something of the dishevelled, neighbourly air that is one of Shirley Williams's chief political assets. She has the same energetic profusion of speech, and great clarity of mind. She plays squash and tennis, and pursues the hearty pastime of canyoning: factors which, with her nursing background, combine to create a Bertramsque impression.

All this is rather at odds with her public image. Her association with the kind of people who cannot pronounce the word "egalitarian" without a curl of the lip, and the efforts of the propagandists of the opposite side, give the impression of a rather harsh and elitist figure, devoted to the market and devil take the hindmost.

The reality is quite different, but the art of personal presentation on the public scale is one of the political arts to which she has not yet troubled to apply herself. She has a swashbuckling side which is not much known — she regularly rides off in the cabs of long-distance lorries delivering loads of medical supplies to Poland, and recently had some hazardous adventures with Land-Rovers and camels in the Sudanese desert as a volunteer health worker in the famine zone.

The two central elements in her make-up are her religious conviction and her vocation as a nurse. All the other things she has taken up have derived from those.

"I began as very much a figure of the left, though I was brought up in a Conservative family. When I



left school with four A-levels and two S-levels, I caused some chagrin by deciding I would train as a nurse instead of going to university. I felt nursing was my vocation, and I've never regretted it.

"Then I had what I always say was the best education a nurse could have — I went into hospital for six months with tuberculosis which I had caught on the wards. It gave me time to study for a sociology degree." Filled with the left-wing ideals tempered in the hospital wards and tenements of the East End, she became in 1969 a

lecturer in social science at the Polytechnic of North London. "I must have been one of the most politically innocent people ever to enter the place."

The saga of the North London Poly was one of the defining events of today's politics, and Caroline Cox was one of its heroes. "She looked into the abyss, into the awful pit, and in horror she recoiled," declares Dr Rhodes Boyson, MP, who came to know her at that time when he published the book *The Rape of Reason*, of which she was joint author, which

described in ugly detail the tactics of the extreme left in the disturbances there. The vicious bullying that they used to stifle political debate, and the weakness of moderates in resisting them, conclusively discredited the left for her, as for many others. Her career as a member of the committed right stemmed from that experience.

It has led her to the Upper House, but she remains very much her own woman. She was rapidly promoted to be a Conservative Whip, but gave it up after a few months because she did not like to

BIOGRAPHY

1937: born Caroline Anne Love, daughter Methodist surgeon
1959: married Dr Murray Cox, psychiatrist; two sons and a daughter
1969: lecturer, Polytechnic of North London; later sociology head
1975: joint author *Rape of Reason*
1975: director, Nursing Education Research Unit, Chelsea College
1982: life peerage
1986: a Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords

be bound by the official line. She is independent enough to admit that she was troubled by the recent ballot of London parents rejecting the abolition of the Inner London Education Authority: "I respect their fear that transferring control to the boroughs may just be a move from the frying pan into the fire; but I believe that abolition is right, in combination with a right for schools to opt out of council control."

Now she is thinking hard about health policy. "I am regarded with a certain apprehension by the frontbench on health, since I am deeply committed to the principle of treatment freely available at the point of need. I am not sure they have a coherent policy on health. I am still doing my thinking on that."

The Tory party has seldom given much of its energy to discussion of political principles, being more concerned with pragmatism and making sure there is a sound hand on the tiller. One effect of the arrival of Labour's ideological exiles has been to introduce into the Conservative party a leavening of members with a real gusto for basic ideas. Lady Cox is, as Dr Boyson puts it, one of the "link people" among the new party groups. She represents a fresh and unbridled element in the character of her party.

George Hill

Saving heirs and graces

In the old days they used to pass their time hunting, shooting and posin' for paintings by George Stubbs. Now they are attending seminars on how to defend the estate against far more abrasive realities — such as inheritance tax and upkeep.

They are the new model aristocrats, emerging from the baronial woodwork, their eyes fixed on the approaching millennium. They have two options. The first, more tempting one in the light of long-accustomed leisure, is to whittle away at their assets, selling them off piecemeal as the need arises. The second is to swap traditional places with the *hot pot*, rolling up their shirtsleeves and serving them hand and foot.

Both approaches are under discussion this spring. On May 18 the auctioneers Christie's and the estate agents Savills start a series of Country Estate Seminars in three stately houses: Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire, Weston Park, Shropshire, and Hopetoun House, West Lothian.

"Keeping one step ahead of ruin is becoming a highly complex business," says the seductive spiel; their "team of highly experienced professionals" can help "share the burden". This includes lessons as to the profitability of selling a given work to the Government in lieu of tax, or sending it to auction.

Last week, the Historic Houses Association advocated the more active approach in a seminar laid on for its "Succession Committee" — composed of apprehensive heirs waiting in the wings. Last week's topic was "Managing and marketing conferences and events".

Dressed in a positively fuchsia dress, the glamorous Lady Cobham of Hagley Hall, Worcestershire, (18th century Palladian pile-cum-conference centre outside Birmingham) and winner of a British Tourist Authority enterprise award, took prospective entrepreneurs through an assault course of dos and



SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

A weekly look at the art world

The owners of stately homes are now subject to a welter of professional advice on the art of financial survival

don'ts, brushing briefly against the catastrophes that even she has encountered.

"Dos" included: smile all the time; have checklists for all functions; leave time for "set up and derig times"; encourage cleaners; attend to details such as a "first-class ladies' loo attendant". According to Lady Cobham, such a pearl among cleaners

earns "lots of Brownie points" from the clientele.

Among the "don'ts" were: don't let the florist drip on your Chippendale table; don't skimp on instructions. Hagley has become Fawley Towers on occasions, as when an untutored waitress served 19 guests with uncooked Grand Marnier soufflé because she "didn't know it had to go into

the oven", and when the Three Degrees pop group came to entertain staff from the Ford Motor Company, only to keep making quips in their patter about General Motors.

Next, Lord Brentford of Newick Park, Lewes, a pragmatist who has learnt to love his new role. "We either had to sell up or make the estate pay for itself," he says. "There was only one option, to turn the place into a dog cemetery and we walked at that." With the words, "if it horrifies you, close your eyes", he treated their assembled lordships to a syrupy advertising video featuring a Range Rover plying round the premises and an intimate voice-over.

At the Succession Committee's first seminar last October, they introduced the concept of commercial development in the estate, ranging from "games for jaded executives" to rubbish disposal. The greatest exponent of the notion that where there's muck, there's brass, turned out to be Lord Guesney, whose controlled landfill at his estate in Packington, Warwickshire, absorbs 4,000 tons of rubbish every day and has a turnover of £2 million.

But it was the final speaker at the latest conference — the only one who did not stem from a stately home — who inadvertently drove home the full implications of the bourgeois invasion. He was Peter Stiles, a professional public relations conference co-ordinator. In 1986, he said, £109 million was spent on conferences. Businessmen were "fed up with the usual conference hotels" and increasingly sought country house venues.

This was not simply for reasons of convenience. "Businessmen are the biggest snobs of all," said Stiles. "They love to sleep in a historic house. They don't want the public around."

No doubt, that night members of the Succession Committee slept uneasily in their four-poster beds.

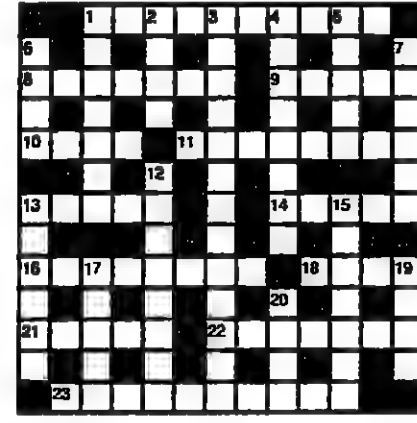


Winning formula: Lady Cobham outside Hagley Hall, which has won her an enterprise award. Now she advises others

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1556

ACROSS
1 French Foreign Office (4,6)
2 Columbia Indians (7)
3 Raga instrument (5)
10 Land charts (4)
11 Given prominence (8)
13 Club emblem (5)
14 Moral fall (5)
16 Evident (8)
18 Thick cake slice (4)
21 Denver Boot (5)
22 Property stealers (7)
23 Californian gold prospector (5,3)

DOWN
1 Joked (7)
2 On unpermitted absence (11,1,1)
3 Mood indigo musician (4,9)
4 Colonize again (8)
5 Communion table (5)
6 Worthless types (4)
7 Fog (6)
12 Infirm (8)
13 Offshoot (6)
15 Tedious fuss (7)
17 Grand instrument (5)
19 European perch (4)
20 Indication (4)



SOLUTION TO NO 1555

ACROSS: 3 Ride 5 Meau 8 Khaki 10 Calculate 11 Tough 12 Tw 13 Hinge 14 Evasion 16 Omelette 18 Dirty 20 Hob 22 Office 23 Unhelpful 24 Tube 25 Tank 26 Eyes
DOWN: 1 Sketch 2 Labourism 3 Richter scale 4 Deluge 6 Egid 7 Uneven 9 Nuts and bolts 15 Irritate 16 Occult 17 Shift 19 Yonder 21 Shin

TOMORROW

One blink away from disaster? We look at the men attempting to control the rapidly growing aircraft congestion in Britain's skies

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I.N.G.E.N.U.I.T.Y Round Four

● Ingenuity is a general knowledge competition being played over 18 days with 10 questions a day. The authors of the first six correct entries to be opened at the end of the competition will each receive a set of the 1988 *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, in a blue Constitution binding, worth £2,280.

- Country of origin of the shirts associated with the Italian patriot who died on a Sardinian island.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- Surname of the man who managed to leave La Santé by helicopter in 1986.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- Spoof sci-fi film from which Nick, Roger, Andy and Simon took a name when they formed a pop group in the 1970s.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- What Carl André used for the Tate's "Low Sculpture".
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- One of Zeus's girlfriends, whose father gave his name to Herschel's planet.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- What, collectively, are Butchers, Coachmen and Professors?
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- Name of the vase, smashed in 1845, which was bought by the British Museum in 1945.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- Cave in France found by four boys when looking for a lost dog.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- Composer of the opera, set in America, in which the hero's hiding place is betrayed by a drop of his blood.
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
- What can be Pommé, Potent, Fleury, or Voided and Couped?
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

TIMES DIARY

SIMON CALLOW

So *Faust* is up and running. It seems barely credible. I determined to do it, come what would, six years ago when David Spenser impulsively offered me the title role in his production. I wasn't much pleased with my own performance, but was convinced of the beauty and importance of the play. I instantly shot off an impassioned letter to Peter Hall — I used to do that a lot in those days — demanding that he immediately schedule a production at the National Theatre. He wrote back gently indicating that he personally doubted the stage-worthiness of the play, but that perhaps one day... I bustled about trying to do it, up a production and came quite close to doing so on a couple of occasions. I was going to play *Faust* and Roy Marsden was going to play the Devil.

When we heard that David Macdonald was doing a production in Glasgow I phoned and offered us. "I don't think so," he said. "It would be rather like having Abbott and Costello — except, of course, if it was Abbott and Costello, I'd take them like a shot." But somehow we're here. A couple of Saturdays ago we finally made the history books with the first performance in English of *Faust Parts I and II* in anything like its complete form.

Like a lover or a demanding child, it occupies so much of one's brain; not just during the three and a half hours of each performance, seven on Saturday; not only during the several hours preparation before the show and the hour or so discussing what went wrong after, but really from the first moment of consciousness each day. And this has been going on for years, during which I have amassed every book about Goethe and every other version of the story.

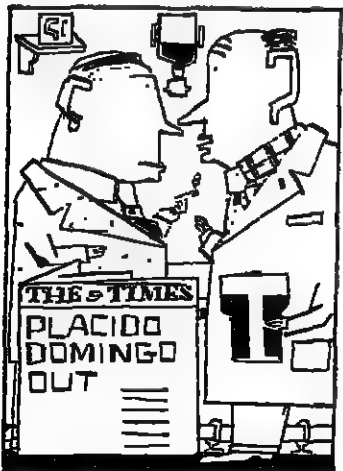
The musical versions are particularly profuse. Schumann, Wagner, Berlioz, Mahler, Liszt (the most Goethean) and Gounod (the least). There is even an opera, *Le Petit Faust*, with (of course) a female devil, Méphistopheles. Goethe wrote at the end of his life that *Faust* was his *happiest* work, his main line of business, as if he had written on his passport, under Profession, "Faust writer". Mine would say "Faust actor".

It is unusual to be playing a classical part with no performing tradition, not in this country, at any rate. So many Shakespearean performances exist in reaction to earlier interpretation — usually against, sometimes in imitation, conscious or not. But with our play, we walk in darkness. There have, of course, been English versions, some quite recent, at Mold and the Young Vic, for example, but none which gained wide currency. For that you have to go back to the great actor-managers. Beerbohm Tree's biography is oddly silent about his version, but Irving's production — the biggest box office success of his career — inspires a memorable passage in Laurence Irving's great life.

Irving, always a fanatic for technology, had imported scenic effects, smoke machines and the latest lighting equipment from all over Europe. It was the *Starlight Express* of its day. The greatest coup of all, however, was the use of electricity on stage. Irving had the swords of Valentine and Faust wired up so that when they fought, sparks would be struck. Unfortunately, on the first night water unaccountably got into their gloves, and both actors received electric shocks. The Valentine recovered, but the Faust wandered about the stage increasingly bewildered. Next day, he was replaced.

At the best of times Faust has been an ungrateful time of it. Arthur Miller came to see our production during previews. Afterwards he came to my dressing room to say hello. "Well," he said with philosophic charm, "Faust is what we in the American theatre call the second banana part." Méphistopheles has all the jokes, you see. Jung observed that he was the only really human character in the play because he was the only one with a sense of humour. Certainly Goethe seemed to have tapped unexpected reserves of anarchy and carnality in the role. In his final scene, Méphistopheles is undone by falling violently, sexually, in love with one of the angels, who happens to be a boy. And this scene was written when the famously heterosexual Goethe was 82. I suppose we must expect a visit from the Clause 28 people any day now.

BARRY FANTONI



'I had no idea the new UEFA ruling on foreign players extended to Placido Domingo'

Last night we had a standing ovation from the gallery. Nowhere else, just the gallery. I cannot recall ever having seen such a thing before. It was charming, but worrying. They looked as if they might fall down. It reminded me of how relatively recent this phenomenon is, in English theatres. I was an usher at the Old Vic during some of the greatest performances of Olivier, Scofield, and Maggie Smith, and I cannot recall a single one. Even now English audiences are not very good at them, appearing frequently to be caught between leaving and cheering. Are they standing up because they were going anyway? I wonder if we shall ever see the English equivalent of the perfectly drilled leap to the feet and unanimous roar of the Broadway audience. Or the statutory rise of the Dutch audience, impassive but immensely courteous, much as we all used to stand for the National Anthem. The English audience, I should say, naturally expresses itself on its bottom. Though once, at a matinee of *The Dance of Death*, we ushers, in clearing the theatre of its litter of ice-cream cartons and cast lists, discovered a gentleman who had died in the front row. That, of course, is going too far.

The continuing hunt for the IRA unit which killed three British servicemen on Sunday raises the question whether the European Commission's aim, not simply to reduce internal frontier controls by 1992 but to scrap them altogether, will not make life too easy for the terrorists.

For police, intelligence experts and other security specialists the speed and irreversibility of the proposed changes create a nightmare of additional security problems. It is all very well for Lord Cockfield, Britain's senior internal market commissioner, and his fellow crusaders to assert that the abolition of all frontier controls will lead to a better alternative way of combating terrorism, drug-trafficking and other serious international crimes. The point is that much as we would like to find alternative solutions we have so far failed to find a safe way of abandoning internal frontier controls.

We still have diverse national security policies, laws and legal and police systems. There is no chance of harmonizing them by 1992. I doubt whether it is realistic to expect a single European judicial area and legal system until well into the next century.

Freedom from border checks for the law-abiding means freedom for terrorists and other

dangerous criminals. Do we really want IRA and ETA terrorists, for example, to have unfettered freedom of access to any part of the Community? It is true that our present system did not stop the IRA murder gangs getting into the Continent to commit further ghastly outrages. But at least the system of border controls provides some chance of spotting them as they move through ports of entry. And in Spain good surveillance and intelligence work did manage to spot the IRA gang planning a massacre at Gibraltar.

Some West European countries, such as West Germany and the Netherlands, have ultra-lenient political asylum policies which have been freely exploited by terrorists. If we abolish internal frontiers we make the security of Western Europe against terrorism only as strong as the weakest link in external frontier control.

Once the terrorists have got through and established their

base areas they would then be free to launch attacks anywhere in the European Community. Think what a boon this would be to groups such as the pro-Iranian terrorists, acting for access to those that Britain and France are likely to be among those EC states opposing the total abolition of internal frontiers.

It is of course true that since the US bombing of Libya in April 1986 the EC states have made considerable improvements in co-operation against terrorism. Trevi, the European standing conference on terrorism, has been the main instrument for the ministers of interior to concert police and intelligence action against terrorism. It has established useful measures such as a secure communications network among all the EC police forces, and enhanced moves to trace

and undermine terrorist weapon supply and funding and other elements of support. It has also compiled a valuable black list of wanted terrorists and "diplomats" who have abused their status by engaging in terrorism.

It is the police and intelligence services which have been most effective in enhancing anti-terrorism co-operation for they are clearly aware that increased co-operation and intelligence sharing and a strengthening of external frontiers are vital prerequisites for any relaxation of internal barriers. It is a pity that their clear-headed approach has not always been reflected by their political masters.

In the context of the move to abolish internal frontiers the most important step taken has been the establishment of a high-level EC working group, including ministerial advisers on immigration and European Commission representatives as well as security experts. This group has been studying border

controls and their role and effectiveness in combating terrorism and other types of crime. It has also been engaged in the important task of studying methods of preventing the abuse of political asylum. Perhaps the most hopeful aspect of this group's work from the point of view of the fight against terrorism, is that its proposals are to be co-ordinated with progress towards the internal market.

If this principle is adhered to we have less reason to fear the security implications of the internal market proposals. But there is still a worrying gulf between the Utopian expectations engendered by Lord Cockfield's crusade and the hard necessity of protecting the national security of member states.

We cannot afford to be complacent about the readiness of our EC allies to move towards a stronger and more consistent stance against terrorism. For example France and some other

states still seem prepared to negotiate squalid secret deals with terrorist hostage takers which would only endanger other citizens of many nationalities. Some states, such as Ireland, still seem determined to use bureaucratic devices to obstruct extradition of terrorists. Some governments are only too willing to turn a blind eye for the sake of a juicy arms deal, markets or other commercial gain.

The truth is that despite recent modest improvements in West European co-operation against terrorism the whole structure is as leaky as a sieve. It is not simply reactionary stubbornness that leads the British and security advisers to oppose the instant abolition of internal border controls. It is an absolute necessity for us to ensure that national security against the growing international scourge of terrorism is in no way weakened. If we go along with the hasty abolition proposals being put forward from the European Commission we risk turning Western Europe into an internal market for terrorism.

The author, Professor of International Relations at Aberdeen University, is chairman of the Research Foundation for the Study of Terrorism.

Paul Wilkinson on the need for frontier controls after 1992

Internal market for terror?

Bernard Levin

Don't praise them, bury them

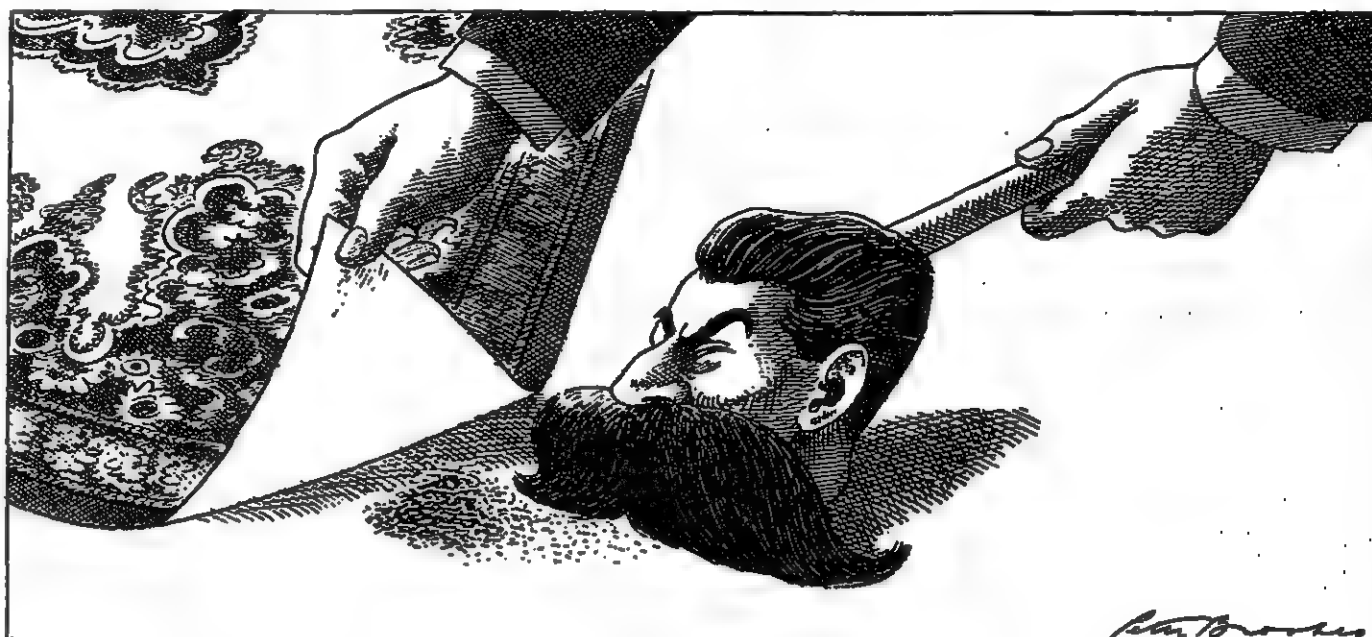
What have Harry McShane and Camilla Ravera in common? Three things, and one more. First, they have both recently died. Second, they had both lived to be almost 100. Third, they had both been communists. McShane for 34 years, Ravera for nearly twice as long. But it is the fourth thing which interests me, and which I wish to discuss today: the curious nature of their obituaries.

These dwell strongly, as was only right, on certain obvious and important qualities which both the Scottish and the Italian communist plainly had; determination, for instance, and courage. Ravera was imprisoned for anti-state activities under the Mussolini regime; McShane, too, served time, also for offences committed in the course of his political career (though we must bear in mind the difference between a British court acting under the rule of law and a fascist one operating on *raison d'état*). Then again, both without question were true to their beliefs, and neither seems to have sought any form of personal vainglory, let alone wealth.

So far, so good; dedication, bravery, sincerity, modesty; admirable characteristics all. Closer inspection of them, however, reveals that they are also all morally neutral; unlike tolerance, charity, scrupulousness and veracity, they can serve evil causes as well as good ones, and they frequently have. Lenin lived without ostentation, and Goebbels was brave; Hitler was perfectly sincere in his belief that Jews deserved to be exterminated, and Ho Chi Minh never swerved in his determination to turn all Vietnam into a communist state.

Of course neither McShane nor Ravera ever did anything to compare with the evils those four practised. But what cannot be denied is that they both harnessed themselves to one of the two most evil ideologies the world has ever seen.

Let us take Camilla Ravera



first. She was one of the founders of the Italian Communist Party; amid the fictional squabbles that rent the party she was at one time expelled from it, but that didn't seem to have any effect on her faith. After the second World War she became an MP, and remained in the Italian Parliament as a life senator; when she died, in April, her eulogy was spoken by another woman communist deputy, who said of Ravera that she strove for, among other things, democracy.

Well, no, she didn't, actually; she strove, with an energy and pertinacity worthy of a better cause, to turn Italy into a Soviet dictatorship (she entered Parliament in 1948, when the Italian party was as unwaveringly Stalinist as the British one), and she went on striving to do that, as far as I can see, until the day of her death.

Now one could hardly expect her comrade, at her graveside, to tell the truth about the thing they both served; whence the bit about striving for democracy. But here is a passage not from the funeral oration, but from a British newspaper obituary:

During her last 20 years her image and comportment were not that of an aged "bolshhevik" but as a kindly, bright-eyed provider of the perfect cup of hot cocoa, to those in need of such.

Yes, yes; she got the idea, I believe, from Andropov, who, when head of the KGB, was known as "Andy the Cocoa-man", and the sound of his shuffling step in the cellars of the Lyubanka brought happy smiles of anticipation to his "customers". (Mind you, if you think that stuff about Camilla Ravera was coming it a bit strong, wait until Dolores Ibarruri, "La Pasionaria" — dies; there will be nine Niagaras of similar gush to commemorate one "beside whom", in the memorable words of the late Tibor Szamussy, "Lavrenti P. Beria was an officer and a gentleman".)

Let us now return home and consider Harry McShane. Said one obituarist: "In the 23 years of his acquaintance, I have never ceased to be impressed by his moral courage, integrity and dedication; he de-

spised the intolerance and callousness of Thatcherism..." Said another: "In 1953... he developed fundamental differences with the Party. Influenced by the American academic Rea Dumeyne, he came to the conclusion that the Soviet Union was an exploitive society, not unlike Western capitalism..." And a third:

"Harry McShane... had a quiet strength and dignity... Harry... especially during the 1930s and during and after the Second World War, accepting the CP's view regarding the Soviet Union. Although he had supported Stalin, he... always considered Trotsky one of the great leaders of the Russian Revolution..."

What is at work here? It is not sympathy with communism, let alone fellow-travelling. It is that Orwell christened, in a different context, a new "benefit of clergy". The form it takes can be illustrated by another, very significant, passage from one of the obituaries, by Eric Heffer. Heffer was the only one who explained exactly why McShane had broken with the Communist

Party, which he did in 1956. Hear Heffer:

His break came... over an incident at the Scottish Communist Party Congress... Some younger members had refused to give Bill Lauchlan, the Scottish Secretary, a standing ovation and were taken before the Scottish secretariat of the party to be disciplined. That was the last straw for Harry.

Heavy straws they have in Scotland, eh? Here was a man — and the same goes for Camilla Ravera, except that she never left the PCI — who stayed in the Communist Party through the millions of deaths in Stalin's "man-made famine", through the show trials; through the tens of millions of further deaths in the Gulag; through the Nazi-Soviet Pact (when the British CP, because Hitler was Stalin's friend, and therefore theirs, had to oppose the war against him); through the creation of an empire in Eastern Europe, more cruel than any of the imperialisms the communists were accustomed to denounce; through the imprisonment or slaughter (after show trials) of the communist leaders of

Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Poland; through the Hungarian Revolution itself... all this, it seems, would still not have been enough had not the British CP committed a really terrible crime, viz., disciplining some members of the Scottish party who had been reluctant to give an important CP figure a standing ovation. Well, I mean, that's really serious.

Why are the McShanes and Raveras painted in these warm, absurd colours when their equivalents among the ranks of unswerving Hitler-followers would be treated as harshly as they deserved to be? The benefit of clergy, I believe, lies in two apparently ineradicable beliefs. First, that the Soviet Union, whatever its faults, is always just about to get much better, so that it would be unkind to remind people about its unreformed past.

Second, that since communism, in its earliest and purely theoretical form, could be held to be an ideal system, the fact that it has in practice turned out to be the most brutal and murderous negation in all history of every aspect of the brotherly love that it was supposed to bring can be discounted. When thus discounted, the whole of that negation, in all its forms, is regarded, in perpetuity, as no more than an aberration; those, therefore, who follow, indeed who worship, the evil reality are really following and worshipping the benign and gentle original.

Well, that's my guess, anyway. If you don't agree, make your own. But do not allow yourself to believe that no such explanation is necessary, for if you do, you are more than halfway to the dual benefit of clergy, where you will feel no incongruity when the next centenary Stalinist to die is praised for his integrity, his dignity, his loyalty, and his hatred of "the intolerance and callousness of Thatcherism."

© Times Newspapers, 1988

Commentary • RONALD BUTT

Rage v prayer

Why is there so much hate and fury among the opponents of David Alton's abortion law reform Bill? Alton has faced the intimidation of pickets, violence and daubed obscenities at his home and "surgery". His work as an MP has been disrupted. His own and his supporters' meetings have been broken up. Every effort is made to ensure that his case is not heard.

You might think that those in public life who oppose the Bill would have denounced these tactics and have besought their supporters to behave decently. I have not been able to discover a single instance of their doing so. Instead, they have complained bitterly of the dirty tricks of Alton's supporters. And of what do these dirty tricks consist? Prayer mostly.

What seems particularly to have infuriated his parliamentary opponents was Alton's suggestion that, in the constituencies of MPs who had appeared to be contemplating a filibuster in the committee stage, Christian supporters should pray for a change of heart in the individuals concerned. This was described as unfair pressure and as a dirty trick.

If no filibuster was contemplated, the MPs only had to say so. (One or two did, and Alton wrote to tell his supporters.) If a filibuster was intended and they did not believe in God, they did not have much to fear, except that their Christian constituents had been made aware of their plans. If on the other hand, they did believe in God and had a change of heart, they could have welcomed it as a discovery that they had been on the wrong side.

So, on the one hand, you have prayer and on the other disrup-

tion, picketing and violence. Which is the dirty trick? The veteran abortion campaigner Mrs Diana Munday has accused Alton of "acting like Goebbels" and of using the technique of the big and repeated lie because of what she called his "horror stories", especially those concerned with pain to the foetus in late abortions. These, she said, were causing women seeking advice on abortion to ask questions not asked before.

She was specifically scathing about the case of the 21-week aborted child in Cardiff which was reported to have been left for several hours to die. Yesterday, however, it emerged that the coroner in the case has recommended an inquest. This is of considerable interest because of the pro-abortionists' last-ditch attempt, at the report stage of the Bill this Friday, to reduce the period for permitted abortions from the present 28 weeks to 24 weeks instead of the Bill's 18 weeks.

If the limit were the end of 24 weeks, on the basis of the 1987 figures that would save only seven babies. If 18 weeks, the figure would be some 7,600; if 20 weeks some 3,700; if 22, some 1,300. It is important to remember that the Bill deals only with late abortions at a stage when the child is approaching viability and there is scientific evidence that it can feel pain. The Bill does not touch the wider question of the criteria for abortion under the 1967 Act, which for practical purposes made abortion on demand possible despite assurances that it would not.

Alton's Bill also makes an exception, even after 18 weeks, for cases where severe handicap is diagnosed or of rape and incest

involving girls under 18. Yet the Bill is being fought in the Commons by procedural devices and tricks with the same spirit of ferocity and bitterness as outside. With every attempt to preserve as many abortions as possible, I come back to the question, why?

The answer is that many with a vested intellectual or emotional interest in maintaining the myth that abortion is just another medical procedure do not wish to face the truth of what is involved in a late abortion. It is the great contemporary taboo. It is why there is a cry of rage from people otherwise committed to explicitness at the suggestion that a late abortion should be televised. It is why, I suppose, MPs fighting for a meaningless 24 weeks are not likely to accept an invitation from Alton's supporters to inspect a spoon-spoiled aborted foetus of a gestational age of 23 or 24 weeks (13in from crown to heel) which has been certificated by a pathologist. It is why there is violence outside Parliament and procedural tricks inside. Making, especially when it has a troika consensus, cannot bear too much reality.

Abortion at an early stage and in particular cases is a complex moral issue about which there can be differing and morally responsible opinions. Two things are morally irresponsible. The first is the ethos cultivated since the 1967 Act that abortion is a long-stop remedy for an inconvenient conception without moral implications. The second is deliberately to avert the eyes from what happens when a child on the brink of life is aborted. These are the issues Parliament must now face.

SCIENCE REPORT

String-pulling

The puzzle over the movement of galaxies near our own towards the same apparently empty spot in the sky may have been solved, but in a way that raises as many questions as it answers.

In today's issue of *Nature*, Y. Hoffman and W. Zurek, of the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the US, offer the explanation that the galaxies are being pulled by the gravitational attraction of a loop of matter called "cosmic string".

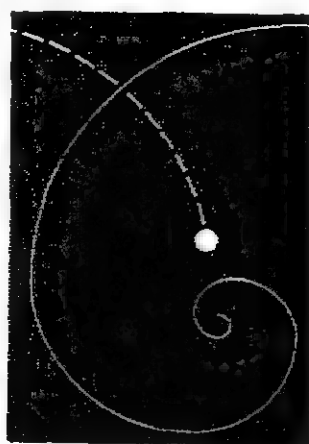
Cosmic string is supposed to be material that is infinitesimally thin but enormously massive, left over from the first moments of the Big Bang in which the universe is believed to have been formed.

Cosmic string is a conceptual generalization of the notion of a particle, a point with mass but no physical extent. The cosmic string variant is a line drawn in space, but with no width, only length in some direction.

The total mass of a piece of cosmic string depends on its length, but might be a million million million tonnes per metre. A 10,000-light-year length of cosmic string could have as much mass as a galaxy like our own, with its 100,000 million stars.

For several years the distribution of galaxies in the sky has been known to be "clumpy"; in some regions several galaxies are moving towards one another to form clusters; elsewhere there is emptiness.

On the conventional view,



This is simply a consequence of chance. At the Big Bang, some parts of the expansion would have been a little faster and others a little slower, so that there would have been irregularities from the start. To begin with, these would have formed galaxies; afterwards galaxies themselves would have begun to form clusters.

But last year a group of astronomers working with Donald Lynden-Bell at Cambridge were perplexed to find that many of the brightest (and therefore closest) galaxies are moving at speeds of hundreds of miles a second towards a wholly unremarkable point in the sky mockingly called the "Great Attractor".

The simplest explanation for this common motion of the nearest galaxies is that mere chance accounts for what is happening. Because galaxies

are scattered across the sky according to some statistical law, any group of galaxies chosen at random will have some overall velocity but will be travelling in a random direction, not towards some "Great Attractor".

But the more galaxies are taken part in the common motion, the smaller this random velocity will be, if chance alone is the explanation. The probability that a group as big as that studied by Lynden-Bell would have a velocity as large as it is would be so small as to stretch credulity.

The Hoffman-Zurek explanation stretches credulity in a different way. Physicists have not yet settled on any one theory to describe particles of matter with very high energy, as would be required to account for the hot dense matter in the early moments after the Big Bang, but cosmic string is one possibility.

If cosmic string exists, it would have been made in large quantities during the Big Bang. Hoffman and Zurek suggest that at least one loop of it was made and is now floating in the sky about 50 million light years away from us, pulling galaxies towards it.

It may even be possible to find the string. Although infinitesimally thin, it would be dense enough to bend light rays, so that scrutiny of the sky near the "Great Attractor" should reveal a chain of doubled and distorted images of distant galaxies.

DAVID LINDLEY



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THE NEW SILK ROAD

In the professional jargon of strategic thinkers, the "bipolar" postwar world is turning "multipolar". With the relative decline of American wealth and power and the regrouping of Soviet ambitions and resources under Mikhail Gorbachov, some of the assumptions based on the dominance of just two superpowers are being replaced by those which recognize the arrival of others, principally China and Japan. The makers of Japanese foreign policy — now led by Prime Minister Takeshita who is visiting London this week — would like a more politically cohesive Europe to join this group, although they are prone to underestimate the difficulties involved in trying to weld Europe into anything remotely resembling a superpower.

They are keen on this because they see the leadership of the non-Communist west being led by a triumvirate of the United States, Japan and Europe. Mr Takeshita's three-country tour of Europe is part of a Japanese diplomatic offensive designed to reheat their relations with a continent which they neglected while concentrating on their bilateral ties (and trade quarrels) with the Americans.

Broad strategy is not the only reason behind this adjustment. The gathering pace of Japanese inward investment in Europe — more of it coming to Britain than to anywhere else — requires deeper political and cultural ties. The Japanese, much like many businessmen inside Europe itself, have woken up with a start to the implications of 1992.

They are worried that the lowering of internal barriers will be matched by the creation or consolidation of external walls aimed at excluding Japanese imports. Mr Takeshita may have been talking about future cultural exchange when he hoped that there would be a new "Silk Road" between Japan and Europe, but the traffic of goods must also have been in his mind.

Mr Takeshita's speech at the Mansion House was a broad-ranging statement of intent; specific detail was confined to uncontroversial, secondary matters. But British policy-makers need to work quickly on its practical implications. There are now just under 70 Japanese firms manufacturing in Britain, the great majority having arrived here

during the 1980s. They are estimated to have created or safeguarded around 20,000 jobs. One of the principal reasons they are coming to any European country is to secure access to the whole European market.

If this trend is encouraged, Britain stands to gain several potential benefits. Japan is now the second largest investor in the United Kingdom after the United States; could some of this investment help create jobs and business in the inner cities?

There are benefits beyond jobs. Japan exports to the countries in which it invests managerial, labour relations and technological expertise which rubs off on Britain. The closer the economic relationship between the two countries, the better the means of communication should become for the resolution of the bilateral trade disputes which will continue to occur; also, the more frequent the opportunities for Britain to keep up the pressure for the expansion of Japanese domestic demand to the advantage of its own exporters.

There is one caveat. Our disproportionate share of Japan's investment will only be maintained if Britain can be the "gateway", not only into Europe's markets but also into its political decision-making. For the time being, Europe is preoccupied with the 1992 Single Market deadline. But after that come further choices between leaving it at that — a European free trade area — and further political integration.

Japan is likely to want a broader and deeper economic linkage with a country which is fully involved with European development. Turning away from Europe might mean turning away from Japan — and the economic advantages it can bring.

Japan is economically powerful but very dependent on importing resources to run its economy. Its small military capacity will not be expanded for some time to come, if at all. Its foreign policy development will, therefore, not follow conventional lines.

The rest of the western world is still waiting to see whether Japan's contribution to western economic and physical security will be taken to the point where it entails some risks and may even create some enemies. At the moment, intentions are ahead of actions.

FEEES BY RESULTS

At the basis of the legal aid system is the principle that access to courts of law for the redress of wrongs should be freely open to citizens regardless of their means. This principle is not, however, applied in practice.

Those judged poor enough to have the backing of legal aid are looked after. But those without such backing are likely to find recourse to the courts so expensive that the cost rather than the justice of the case will determine the outcome. The legal profession has for too long complacently accepted this.

Those who suffer most from this state of affairs are those in the middle range of income and wealth, who are neither so rich that legal costs are easily paid nor so poor that legal aid will pay the bills. Leaving equity aside, if the middle income classes are at a disadvantage in the pursuit of legal rights, it is a serious handicap to the proper development of the legal system itself. It is particularly through this more articulate and educated section of the population that the regulatory values and standards of society are most likely to be carried forward from generation to generation.

Those values rest on a common conception of the rights of the individual, particularly in relation to public authority and the power of the State. But to mean anything, those rights have to be capable of being claimed. They cannot be so claimed, if the cost is such as to bring ruin in the event of a failure.

Many justifiable claims currently go unpursued. The use of the appropriate legal mechanisms for deciding between conflicting

personal rights is neglected. The expansion of the power of both State and private agencies over the individual is insufficiently challenged.

An Aberdeen solicitor has just announced a scheme of his own devising which, if successful, may come to be seen as a key move in the solution of this problem. He proposes to negotiate with his clients agreements whereby they will pay him, according to the success of his efforts on their behalf, what is known as a contingency fee. This is quite customary in the United States, and yet abhorrent to the controlling bodies of the legal profession in Britain, for reasons which, to say the least, deserve close review.

The presumption ought to be strongly in favour of any method of payment which brings greater access to justice, as a contingency fee system certainly would do. Although the example of so-called "ambulance chasing" lawyers in the United States is a distasteful one, even that is not necessarily any more than a rather vulgar demonstration of the proper operation of a market, of supply and demand seeking each other out for mutual benefit. Who is to say that the potential client in the ambulance is ill-served by the prompt offer of legal assistance? Who, exactly, is being harmed?

A contingency fee system would still need supervision, as do all markets which impinge on the public interest. The Aberdeen initiative looks like an idea whose time has come. The legal profession would be wiser to make room for it than to make war on it.

TABLE OF PEACE

To persuade representatives of Cuba and Angola to sit and discuss their mutual difficulties, or South Africa and the United States, would scarcely raise an eyebrow. But to persuade government and military representatives of all four countries to spend two days round a table together discussing a basis for peace in southern Africa is a considerable feat. That the talks did not break up, but yielded progress and agreement on a venue for another round, is an even greater feat and one for which all the participants can take credit.

A framework for solving some of the many problems which beset southern Africa has been apparent for several years. If Angola's Marxist Government could be convinced to do without Cuban troops in its war against Unita, then maybe South Africa would cease to regard even a left-leaning Angola as the thin end of the Communist wedge in southern Africa. Similarly, if South Africa could be convinced to grant Namibia genuine independence, then one of the chief perceived threats to the security of Angola in the form of a proxy South African state would loom less large.

If both these changes could be effected concurrently, then the one could be traded against the other and the bargain, if kept, would serve to foster mutual trust. The result would be a south-west African detente in which security and trust would grow and promote prosperity. That, at least, was the theory. Until now, however, none of the many parties involved had shown any interest in putting it to the practical test. A number of factors have coincided to change this.

Both South Africa and Angola have to count the cost of continued war in political and economic terms. The South African rand has fallen sharply against world currencies; it is no longer as rich a country as it was. Moreover, every raid it launches outside its borders

reduces the little international respectability it still enjoys.

Angola, after 13 years of civil war, faces bankruptcy. Its population faces hunger. With the Soviet Union under Mr Gorbachov appearing to distance itself from its clients in the less developed world, the Angolan regime can have no guarantee either of unlimited supplies of arms to continue the civil war, or of sufficient food to feed its people. It needs peace.

The same draught from Moscow is starting to cool the revolutionary ardour of the Cuban leadership, too. Fidel Castro would undoubtedly prefer an internationally agreed withdrawal of his troops from Africa to one enforced either by defeat in Angola or by economic exigency at home.

Regular discussion of regional issues by the two superpowers was one of the unsung achievements of the first Reagan-Gorbachov summit meeting in Geneva two and a half years ago. The relative neglect of the subject by the world's media since then appears to have had a benign influence. The first and greatest result of the "regional talks" was last month's agreement on a Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan, to be guaranteed by the United States and the Soviet Union with the support of the United Nations. The second was the promise of some progress towards an international conference on the Middle East.

In view of the progress made in recent weeks, the third could well be the promise of peace in the south-western corner of Africa. The fact that only four parties are directly involved (with the Soviet Union a shadow in the background), means that southern Africa could even overtake the Middle East as the next centre for superpower peace-making. What matters most now is that the momentum set in London should not be lost.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How children improve at English

From the Chairman of the National Association for the Teaching of English
Sir, Like the Kingman committee *The Times* (editorial, April 30) rightly rejects the prescriptive grammar teaching of the past. Yet in pressing for a "a sensible curriculum that teaches them all basic grammar" and also spelling, punctuation and handwriting, you make two ill-founded and dangerous assumptions.

The first is that there exists a large body of teachers of English unconcerned to help their pupils write correctly. This is simply not the case. I have yet to meet the teacher for whom "anything goes". However, there is now a far greater awareness that good writing demands more than correctness in grammar, spelling, punctuation and handwriting.

Children need to learn how to handle structures larger than the sentence, how to take into account what the reader might be expected to know and infer, and how to meet the very different demands of forms as varied as argument and personal narrative. All this the Kingman report recognises and for this we warmly welcome it.

You also assume that those teachers of English who do not transmit to their pupils a set of explicitly formulated grammatical rules are joined in a hypocritical conspiracy to deny them access to their educational right, an effective command of Standard English. Yet every piece of evidence the Kingman committee received took it as axiomatic that all pupils have a right to learn to speak and write in Standard English.

But the better informed rejected the seductive plausibility of your view that the ability to formulate a rule explicitly is a necessary precondition of proficiency in its use. For a mass of evidence exists to show that this is not how children gain command of new syntactic forms.

They learn by encountering lively examples of language in use and having occasion to use the new forms for their own purposes. Certainly explicit knowledge of grammatical rules does not prevent the learner from producing inadvertent ambiguity such as that quoted in your editorial.

As measured by any available yardstick, standards in the teach-

ing of English are rising: the evidence of the examination boards and the Assessment of Performance Unit at the Department of Education and Science shows that our children write and read better than their predecessors. But the world outside the school gates changes at electronic speed. In employment, in study, and in the course of their daily lives, demands are made on the literacy of our school-leavers which they are not always able to meet. Complacency within the profession is no answer. We know that we must become even more professional if we are to do our pupils justice. So we welcome the extensive proposals for in-service courses put forward by Kingman. But the way forward must be well-informed. We cannot afford to lay down curriculum content on whim or apparent common sense.

Yours faithfully,
HENRIETTA DOMBEY,
Chairman,
National Association for the Teaching of English,
49 Broomgrove Road,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire,
April 30.

From Mr. J. W. Skillington
Sir, Those learning foreign languages need a fairly detailed knowledge of grammar. Once it was obtained in learning Latin, but that is not now available to any extent.

Clause analysis, whether in English or Latin, is one of the best ways of learning to find the exact meaning of a passage and of clarifying thought and expression.

In this connection it is noteworthy that the development of clear and possible English in writing and in speech took place when a classical education was general. Scientists benefited, among others, from Newton to Darwin.

From personal experience I have always found grammar lessons enjoyable and intellectually stimulating, both when taught and as a teacher. Most pupils are interested in the nature, structure and fascinating make-up of their own language, particularly when the teacher is interested too! Yours faithfully,
J. W. SKILLINGTON,
20 Morley Street,
Kettering,
Northamptonshire,
April 29.

RSC protest

From the Director of the British Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa
Sir, It is to be regretted that Bernard Levin should wish, so strenuously, to discredit the sincerity and commitment of the Royal Shakespeare Company ("All the world's a stage", April 28).

That oppression and racial discrimination are practised in many countries is not in question. Nor is it in question that apartheid South Africa implements a system of institutionalised racism which governs every aspect of the lives of those who live under it. It has one of the most all-embracing and sophisticated forms of economic, political and social control in the world and this is maintained by state violence.

The report of the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons describes apartheid thus: "As a

contrivance of social engineering, it is awesome in its cruelty. It is achieved and sustained only through force, creating human misery and deprivation and blighting the lives of millions."

Why should the statement in protest against the invitation extended to the South African Ambassador, on the occasion of Shakespeare's birthday, and delivered by Anthony Sher on behalf of the company, be targeted for attack?

Would not Mr Levin have objected if, in 1938, a theatre company invited the German Ambassador to Shakespeare's birthday performance and a Nazi flag was flown? I hope he would have done. Yours faithfully,
ETHEL DE KEYSER, Director,
British Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa,
22 The Ivories,
6-8 Northampton Street, N1,
April 29.

Hair of the dog

From Mrs Ann Lee
Sir, Mrs de Bunsen, (April 22) might be interested to know that there are guilds of weavers, spinners and dyers throughout Britain, and abroad.

Men, women, and in some cases children, spin, weave, knit and crochet wool, silk, cotton and flax, and in addition the more unusual fibres, such as mohair, alpaca, angora rabbit or dog hair.

Many of the resulting garments are covetable and some are of couture quality.

I am sure Mrs de Bunsen's neighbour derived great satisfaction from making and wearing her dog-hair gloves. Yours faithfully,
ANN LEE,
Chairman,
Lincolnshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers,
Revesby Park,
Boston, Lincolnshire,
April 23.

From Mrs L. C. Christie
Sir, Gilbert White, of Selborne, wrote in his diary for May 15, 1788:

Sheared my mongrel dog Rover, and made use of his white hair in plaster for the ceilings. His coat weighed four ounces. The N.E. wind makes Rover shiver.

Yours faithfully,
L. C. CHRISTIE,
Church Cottage,
Great Henny,
Sudbury, Suffolk,
April 27.

From Mrs Joyce Robson
Sir, Apropos the recent correspondence, my neighbour bought her daughter a vivid turquoise-blue angora jumper, which unaccountably went into small holes after it was washed and dried on the clothes-line.

When I cleared my blue tins' box in the autumn their nest lining solved the mystery! Yours faithfully,
JOYCE ROBSON,
2 Runnymede Close,
Whitton,
Twickenham, Middlesex,
April 26.

Not wanted as a magistrate

From Mr T. D. O'Leary
Sir, I was interested to see Miss Gibb's report (April 28) on the recruitment drive for new JPs. In particular I was intrigued to learn that nominations are invited from "people in all walks of life who are thought to have the qualities and the time to serve as JPs."

My own experience may, in the context, be instructive. I completed my term as High Commissioner in New Zealand (and Western Samoa and as Governor of Pitcairn) at the end of last year and expect to retire, at the mandatory age limit of 60, in August of this year.

A number of local residents in my long-established home town of Petworth, in West Sussex, suggested that with the background of experience I have had in looking after the interests of British communities overseas during 35 years in the Diplomatic Service, and with the plentiful free time which will shortly be my lot, whether I wish it or not, I should put my name forward to the

appropriate body in West Sussex. After reflection I did so.

The response was a courteous but dismissive letter from the clerk explaining that the Lord Chancellor would appoint nobody past the age of 60 and that since there was to be no meeting to consider nominations in West Sussex until next year, by which time I should have reached 60, I would be ineligible. So it seems I and my age group are *hors de combat* without entering the lists.

Do the Lord Chancellor's advisers really believe that many people engaged in earning a daily living in commerce or industry or farming and bringing up a family are likely to find the time needed for training and subsequently sitting as a lay justice?

It is, surely, the mature generation who have had a lifetime of practical experience and now have the leisure to use that experience coupled with the reflective disposition that comes with maturity who are particularly suited to the bench.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE O'LEARY,
Travellers' Club,
Falmouth, SW1.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 5 1873

The Modoc war (1872-73) consisted of a series of battles between the Modoc Indians and the US Army. The Americans wanted to force the Modoc back to their Oregon reservation. In October, after their final submission, Chief Kintpuash ("Captain Jack") was hanged.

THE MODOC WAR.

(From Our American Correspondent.)
PHILADELPHIA, April 15.

The treacherous murder of General Canby by the Modoc Indians while he was engaged in a peace conference with their Chiefs has filled the country with horror, and has suddenly arrested the "Indian peace policy." For several weeks peace negotiations have been going on with the Modocs. The latter were in their stronghold in the lava beds, near Lake Tule, in Northern California, while the Army was encamped on the verge of the lava beds.

On the 10th of April five Modoc Indians and four squaws came into the camp, and as was the custom, presents of clothing and provisions were made to them by the Peace Commissioners. When they left, a message was sent by them to the Modoc Chiefs asking for a "talk" the next morning at a place about one mile in advance of the picket line. Subsequently, one of the Modoc Chiefs, "Bogus Charley", came into the camp, gave up his musket, and said he did not intend going back any more. This was thought to be a surrender on his part, and he remained all night in the camp. Next morning, the 11th of April, "Boston Charley", another Modoc Chief, came in, and announced that Captain Jack, the Modoc Commander, and five other Indians would meet the Peace Commissioners for their "talk." The two "Charleys" then mounted horses, and started for the lava bed. About an hour afterwards the Peace Commissioners started for the place designated, they being General Canby, the Rev. Dr. Eleazar Thomas, Mr. A. B. Mescham, and Mr. Dyer. A friendly Indian named Frank Riddle and his squaw accompanied them as interpreters. The party arrived and met Captain Jack and his warriors, the conference being closely watched by the signal officers from the top of a high hill near the camp. About half an hour after the "talk" began a cry was raised from the signal station, the officers shouting that the Indians had attacked the Peace Commissioners. In a moment the troops were under arms, were deployed as skirmishers, and orders were given to advance at double quick. As they advanced, Mr. Dyer came running towards them, and said he thought he was the only one who had escaped. Frank Riddle and his squaw next came within the line, and they told the story of the Indians' perfidy.

Mr. Mescham at the conference had made a short speech to the Indians, followed by General Canby and Dr. Thomas. Then Captain Jack spoke, asking for certain territory, when Mr. Mescham told him it was not possible to give him what he asked. "Schouchen," one of the Chiefs, told Mr. Mescham to say no more. While "Schouchen" was speaking, Captain Jack got up and walked behind the other Indians, and suddenly exclaiming "all ready," he drew a pistol and snapped a cap at General Canby. He cocked the pistol and fired a second time, shooting Canby under the eye, and the General fell dead. It was the work of a moment only, and almost instantly "Schouchen" shot Mescham in the shoulder and head, inflicting a mortal wound. "Boston Charley" and another Indian shot and killed Dr. Thomas. Mr. Dyer endeavoured to escape, when "Hooker Jim" chased him some distance, but Dyer turned upon him, pistol in hand, and Jim ran.

Sight to forget

From Mr N. H. Rogers
Sir, Mr Mein's suggestion (April 29), that the bunker on Horse Guards Parade be demolished and in its place a memorial be built to honour Churchill, is excellent. This society has invited Mr Mein to expound his ideas further at our AGM.

Like Mr Mein we too have long held the view that the Government should give serious thought to erecting a beautiful and dignified national memorial to Churchill. We on our part are engaged in planning an annual Churchill Memorial Service in St Paul's Cathedral.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant.
NORMAN HARVEY ROGERS,
International Churchill Society,
18 Grove Lane,
Ipswich, Suffolk.

Attention to detail

From Ms Alison Kean
Sir, Recently, when arriving at Victoria Station from Clapham Junction, courtesy of British Rail's new, and supposedly slicker, morning commuter service — originating I think in Network SouthEast (time) Zone three — I have been amused to hear the driver announce:

Ladies and gentlemen, in a few minutes' time we shall be arriving at London Victoria. Local time is 9.20 am. Please ensure that you take all hand baggage with you when you leave.

Is this not taking the "catch the train and you've caught the plane" a little too far? Yours faithfully,
ALISON KEAN,
125 Leathwaite Road, SW11.

Douche technik

From Mr James Page-Roberts
Sir, My windscreen has today been sprayed twice by jets from the car in front. Such generosity and public spirit should be applauded. Yours faithfully,
JAMES PAGE-ROBERTS,
Skamore House,
Tangley,
Andover, Hampshire,
April 28.

Enter the Metaphor

From Mr J. F. Riison
Sir, Your correspondent (April 25) may have overlooked the following: gaggles of cloud; woggles of cloud; splodges of cloud; slots (referring to special areas); ther safternoon and ther seveening; references to Yorksheer, Lincolnsheer etc. I should say that "gaggles" appear to have been superseded (*sic*), possibly because someone pointed out that gaggles are not airborne, as are skeins. Yours faithfully,
J. F. RITSON,
1 North View,
Barnard Castle, Co. Durham.

HEALTH

Married to cancer

Cancer sufferers are the centre of attention this week; but their partners and relationships, reports Ann Kent, are often victims too

This is Europe Against Cancer week, when we are invited to focus our attention on the disease and those who suffer from it.

But cancer has hidden victims — the partners and spouses of those who are actually being treated. Their own pain — and their often enormous contribution to a patient's care and recovery — is frequently overlooked or forgotten. While cancer patients may expect and deserve sympathy and support from friends and relatives, their spouses, who will also experience feelings of helplessness, bewilderment and fear, are rarely considered.

To those of us who neither have cancer, nor have partners with cancer, it seems extraordinary that anyone could walk out on a sufferer. In fact the disease — or perhaps more precisely, coping with the disease — takes a heavy toll of relationships. The most recent famous casualty is the marriage of trainer and ex-jockey Jonjo O'Neill, who separated from his wife Sheila after nine years of marriage because, it has been reported, of the stress surrounding his treatment for the cancer of the lymph glands which was discovered two years ago. Jockey Bob Champion's victory over testicular cancer did not extend to his marriage, which collapsed some years after he was given the medical all-clear.

Dr Maurice Slevin, a cancer physician at St Bartholomew's Hospital, and chairman of the counselling charity Bacup, believes the diagnosis of cancer is a life crisis for both the patient and the patient's partner. "It puts a tremendous strain on a relationship. In general those who are very close start to become closer, while those who already have difficulties move further apart."

"Unlike heart attacks or road traffic accidents, cancer and its treatments can drag on for years. People are often at their best in a crisis, and when cancer is diagnosed everyone rallies round. When it happens again and again, there is less support."

Dr Slevin points out that there is another, unexpected aspect to cancer which may explain the delayed effect which some marriages seem to experience. Once a patient has come successfully through treatment, there can be personality changes which from the patient's perspective are changes for the better. The patient becomes almost evangelical about how beautiful



Hurdles ahead: Jonjo and Sheila O'Neill's marriage failed the test

I think to hell with most things now

ful life is, and how important it is not to fritter away your time on trivialities. However, living with a born-again personality can cause problems. One of Slevin's breast cancer patients, used to be a rather meek "traditional" wife, who was content to follow her husband round the golf course and who could always be relied on to be at home when needed. After her treatment, she decided she wanted to get much more out of life. She took up pony trekking, and was no longer at home when her husband needed her. Her marriage is now under strain.

In the case of the Unsworths, it is the spouse who has undergone the personality change. Stella Unsworth's husband, Sam, was not expected to live after multiple myeloma was diagnosed. He was one of three patients to be offered a draconian new form of chemotherapy. The other two

died, while Sam Unsworth's side effects included burst stomach ulcers, pneumonia, a brain haemorrhage and a stroke. He says that without his wife he does not think he would have survived treatment.

Stella Unsworth says that she was told on at least three occasions that her husband was not going to live. "Even after he was home he had to go back to the hospital every couple of days, and he was so weak that I used to shower him and dry him as if he was a baby. I didn't mind that. I was so grateful to have him back."

"I thought his personality would change more, but he still lets little things get to him. But I don't. I think to hell with most things now. And I have no patience with people who moan about trivialities."

Cancer has a "swings and roundabouts" effect on relationships; any

damage done has little to do with the real or imagined mutilations of the disease. Dr Clare Moynihan, a medical sociologist at the Institute of Cancer Research, studied the effects of testicular cancer on the mental welfare of 102 patients. She found that 62 per cent of them reported improved personal relationships, while another 17 per cent ended a serious relationship after developing cancer. The men were more upset by the real or threatened prospect of unemployment following a lengthy illness than by the loss of a testicle. And their partners agreed that the loss had no effect on their own sexual desires. Publishing her findings in *Cancer Surveys* 1987, Moynihan wrote: "Many relatives revealed a need to be involved in discussions with the doctor, especially at initial diagnosis and during treatment... we feel that families of sufferers should be offered formal support of some kind."

Dr Steven Greer, a psychiatrist at the Royal Marsden Hospital, believes that far too little attention is paid to the spouse or partner of the person with cancer — and that lack of communication is a very common problem. Greer is conducting a trial into the value of psychotherapy for cancer patients — and partners and spouses are included in the sessions. He is aiming to establish whether it is possible to influence survival prospects by building up the patient's mental defences. The spouse's supportive role in this process may be complicated, however, by Greer's finding that while "about a third" of patients say they would like their spouses included in his sessions, "the others say they want to deal with their feelings about cancer on their own". Moynihan discovered something similar: nearly a third of the patients she interviewed preferred to go outside the family circle to express their emotions.

Slevin stresses, however, that the effects of a shared cancer experience are more likely to pull people together than force them apart. "Many patients have told me their relationship is better now than it has ever been."

Dr Amanda Ramirez, a lecturer in psychosocial oncology at Guy's Hospital, agrees: "I often ask patients at the breast cancer clinic if anything has improved in their lives. They say that family relationships, and particularly the relationship with their husbands, have improved."

This observation is of more than passing interest. For while little research has been done into the long-term effects of the disease on a partner's physical health, research has shown that married cancer sufferers survive longer than single people. Dr Ramirez and her colleagues believe one possibility is that the presence of a partner encourages the cancer patient to persist with treatment. The other explanation is that a stable, happy marriage protects against the stresses of the disease, and that this in itself influences survival rates.

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Hepatitis hazard

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Reports of Russell Harty's acute liver failure and hepatitis will have caused alarm among the many people who catch hepatitis every year. But most sufferers have hepatitis A — they feel dreadful for a few weeks, tired for a few months and then make a complete recovery. Hepatitis is not a precise diagnosis, but a descriptive term of the pathological processes which are damaging the liver. When doctors use the term hepatitis they usually mean viral hepatitis, but may of course be referring to other diseases which produce a destructive inflammation of the liver, but which they would rather not describe in detail. Viral hepatitis itself can be divided into hepatitis A, hepatitis B, or hepatitis Non-A, Non-B. Non-A, Non-B itself is probably caused by at least two different viruses. Hepatitis A is what the general public thinks of as "jaundice", which occurs in epidemics or outbreaks and which patients catch from eating food contaminated by sewage. It can therefore be water-borne and is particularly common in areas where standards of food hygiene and preparation are lax. Although theoretically it can be passed on by blood and other body secretions, this rarely happens in practice. The patient is most infectious before the jaundice appears. In hepatitis A once the patient has turned yellow the amount of the virus shed by him or her is already waning. Hepatitis A has no persistent carrier state, and although the disease can be very debilitating at the time it usually has no long-term ill effects.

Hepatitis B is the more serious disease, and many patients who have it remain carriers. The

disease is common among doctors, nurses, hospital workers, drug addicts, prostitutes and homosexuals. It is transmitted by blood and semen and may also be present in other body secretions. It occasionally leads to cirrhosis in later life, and if caught in early childhood may well develop into malignant diseases of the liver in middle or old age. Little is known about hepatitis Non-A, Non-B, but it is thought to be spread in the same way as hepatitis A, by faecal contamination. It can lead to permanent liver damage in a small percentage of cases.

All types of hepatitis start with a feeling of absolute wretchedness, nausea, headache, anorexia, diarrhoea, and vomiting and fever. After three to 10 days jaundice appears, when the patient starts to feel better. Treatment of hepatitis, of whatever type, is general nursing care and the maintenance of the correct fluid and electrolyte balance. Steroids may have some limited use.

If a patient's immune system is compromised for whatever reason, the disease may run a less favourable course. Recrudescence hepatitis is the condition in which after apparent recovery the jaundice may persist, waxing and waning for some little time. In these cases recovery is the rule. Fulminant hepatitis is a rare condition which sometimes complicates cases of hepatitis B or Non-A, Non-B. In this there is a recurrence of the jaundice, massive destruction of the liver, and involvement of the brain, which may lead to coma. If the patient recovers, which is by no means certain, the final outlook is surprisingly good.

In the pink



Men are almost pleased to have a few facial wrinkles. Creases around the eyes are politely referred to as "laugh lines" and are thought to show character; 40 years ago the post-war generation even used to cultivate "squadron leader's eyes", as they were then known, the implication being that they had been honourably won by peering through binoculars into the sun of the western desert.

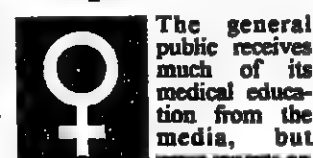
Women have never seen them in the same light. To them a creased, wrinkled, leathery skin was merely an ageing skin, and dermatologists, who tended to agree with them, suggested that applying a facial cream in an attempt to restore a youthful complexion was as hopeless as flogging a dead horse. But recently a cream has been introduced which offers a degree of hope that some of the minor creases, not the major furrows, may be ironed out if it is applied regularly.

The *Lancet* has reviewed the use of tretinoin, a retinoid vitamin A derivative which is supplied either as a cream or a solution and is available from dermatologists. It has been hailed as a preparation which can retard, or even reverse, the ageing effect of sun and weather on the skin. Some doctors feel that it does no more than cause a redness and minor swelling of the skin which obliterates the creases, but others will quote experimental evidence, including double blind studies, which show there was a clinical improvement in the skin when tretinoin was applied, and an apparent reversal of effects of both the sun and the passage of the years.

The *Lancet* warns that in mice use of tretinoin has occasionally resulted in the formation of skin tumours.

but this has not been a consistent finding, and as yet there has been no indication of similar ill effects in women. It advocates caution in its use but also seems to acknowledge that demand for a youthful appearance is so strong that his advice is likely to be disregarded.

Simple solution



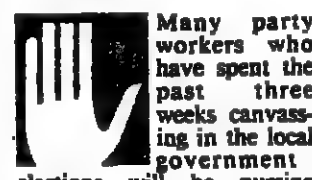
The general public receives much of its medical education from the media, but press reports on disease tend to be selective; a description of glue ear in children, or even a discussion of the relative merits of different types of contraceptive pill, are acceptable breakfast time reading, but Aids when it was first reported in the States was definitely not. One common and often very troublesome problem is *Gardnerella vaginalis* which, because of its symptoms, is never mentioned. But a recent survey reported in the *BMJ* by Dr R.R. West, Dr T.C. O'Dowd and Sister J.E. Small of the University of Wales College of Medicine showed that of 182 women randomly selected from a general practice in Cardiff, 60 had bacteriological evidence of *Gardnerella* infection, and 26 had symptoms.

Gardnerella vaginalis is associated with a profuse vaginal discharge, often misdiagnosed by the patient, and sometimes even by the doctor, as thrush; in many cases it causes no serious problems but in others it is the cause of an irritating discharge with a characteristic odour, normally described as fishy, occasionally as over-ripe cheese; associated with the discharge is genital discomfort, swelling and pain on intercourse.

Doctors argue as to whether *Gardnerella* itself causes the symptoms or whether it is merely an indicator of a

generalized, non-specific vaginal infection, labelled by the medical profession as a bacterial vaginosis; but whatever the terminology the trouble is easily treated with metronidazole (Flagyl) and comfort is soon restored. Some physicians recommend treating the patient's partner as a routine measure at the same time, others advocate this only if the woman's problems are recurrent.

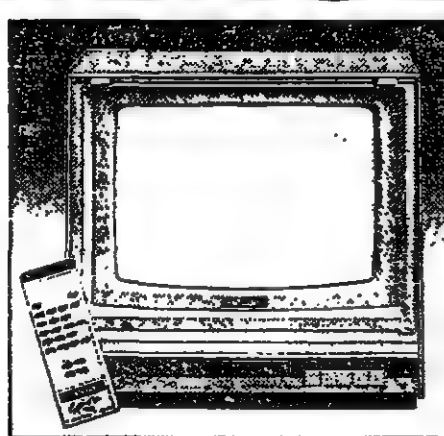
Finger traps



Many party workers who have spent the past three weeks canvassing in the local government elections will be nursing bruised and even lacerated fingers when they attend the count tonight. Furling letters through letterboxes is not the simple task it was when letterbox flaps relied on gravity to keep them shut; the modern letterbox has a spring-loaded flap, which can be so stiff that catching the fingers in it causes quite a serious injury. Mr D. Menzies, a surgical registrar at the Westminster Hospital, writing in the *British Medical Journal*, has described two postmen he has had to treat recently; one had amputated the tip of his left middle finger, the other had a finger which needed careful stitching, after both had caught their left hands in the letterbox. Menzies reports that although the problem is often discussed by postmen and described by them to their doctors, it has previously only received publicity when a parliamentary candidate caught his finger during a general election campaign. He suggests that it should be possible to determine the strength of spring needed to stop a letterbox flap from rattling, without being so strong that there was a danger of it snapping off the end of a postman's finger.

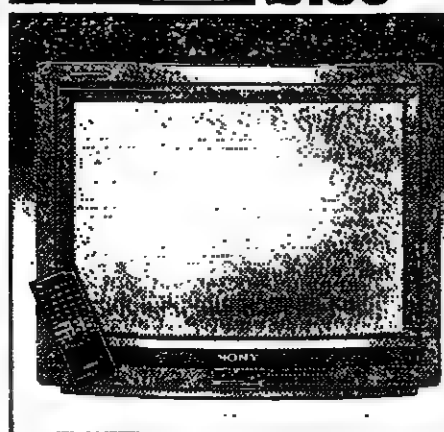
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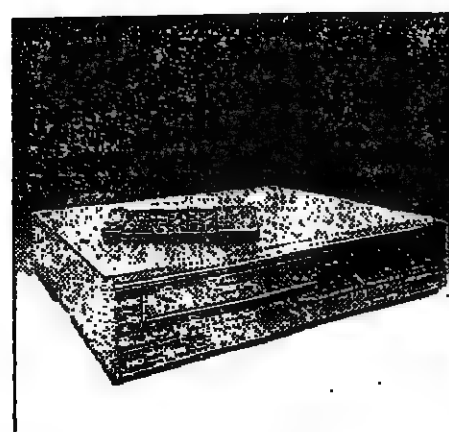
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TOMORROW



Barbara Amiel: where does charity begin now?

Elizabeth Blacklaw, a general practice nurse and mother of three, is the kind of down-to-earth type who tends to laugh at the idea that she may have made history. Yet Blacklaw, 53, was one of a group of volunteers who took part in the research trials of a new slimming pill at a Dundee hospital. The results announced this week have excited the scientific and medical communities who had come to regard a safe, sure-fire slimming aid almost as the 20th-century equivalent of the Elixir of Life, an inspired idea but unobtainable.

Blacklaw took three capsules of BRL 26830A a day for 18 weeks, while at the same time following a low fat, high fibre diet of between 800 and 900 calories a day. At the end of the period her weight had dropped from 15 stone to 11.5lb, her dress size from 20 to 16.

On average the other 15 volunteers who had taken the drug lost 34lb, 50 per cent more than the control group who had dieted but taken only a placebo.

Blacklaw not only looked much better, she also felt extremely well. The drug, which works by speeding up the human metabolic rate, had no unwanted side effects in her case, she said.

"I'd tried to diet before but I'd always fallen by the wayside after a few days," Blacklaw said. "What was good about this was that the rate at which I was losing kept up my morale. I didn't even weigh myself very much; I could tell by my skin bands I was getting thinner."

A pill worth the weight?

A new slimming drug has shown drastic results among the overweight. But does its success really mean the death of the diet?

Obesity specialist and consultant endocrinologist Dr Roland Jung, who headed the research team at Ninewells Hospital, found the pills so popular that there were even a few years when patients had to stop.

The human trials, mainly on women in their forties, have borne out what animal experiments had already suggested: that the drug increases the metabolic rate so that the body converts excess fat into heat. Other such thermogenic drugs already exist, but they cause palpitations and therefore cannot be given in large doses or for any length of time. "This new drug appears to have had no adverse effects on the heart," Jung said. Neither did it raise cholesterol levels, blood pressure or pulse. There were no signs of muscle wasting or weakness, and those taking it felt no hungrier than the control group. Ending the course brought no unpleasant withdrawal symptoms.

Another attractive aspect of the drug was that its effective-



Blacklaw: happy guinea-pig

ness appeared to increase the longer it was taken, a major advantage since traditionally weight is shed more easily at the beginning of a slimming programme than later on. The only drawback appeared to be a slight shake which developed in 12 out of the 16 volunteers, but that disappeared after a couple of weeks and was regarded as severe in only one patient.

At around 16 stone Jung's patients were in the moderately obese class but he believes there is no reason why the drug should not work at lower weights. "Those who wish to lose just a stone or so would simply take it for a shorter period of time."

There is still much debate as to what exactly causes obesity. Most experts say that it invariably involves some degree of over-eating, and many are unconvinced by claims of naturally sluggish metabolism.

"But in a way we've bypassed the debate with this drug," Jung says. "It takes the body's natural fuel which is fat

and makes it burn up more quickly. We've found metabolic rates have increased by between 10 and 20 per cent."

Researchers are still not certain exactly how the drug works and far more extensive trials involving thousands of patients are needed. This means, of course, that the drug's availability for general use is still some years away, and it is expected that when it does come on to the market it will initially be obtainable on prescription only. None the less if it fulfils its promise it could revolutionize the slimming industry and prove a vast money-spinner for its producer, Beechams.

In theory it should work even without any actual dieting; in practice Jung believes this is hard to achieve. "Unless you are really watching what you are eating it's all too easy to start eating more to compensate for the increased metabolic rate. It's not a cheater's charter."

Liz Gill

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1988

DOG ON FRAUD CHARGE

Yesterday Magistrates were baffled by Smut's claim to have invented "WOOF WOOF" (the World's best new game). Mr RC Jones JP was told that if Ur Geller could bend spoons, that if 'Who' was whiter than white, a dog could surely invent a game. The case was dismissed and within minutes the whole court was playing WOOF WOOF.

WOOF WOOF - available at under 25 at all good Toy Shops.

هكذا من الأصل

BOOKS 1

Richard Holmes on a political view of the rebel poet and lordly libertarian; and also the history of the family Byron cursed

Born to oppose

THE POLITICS OF PARADISE
A Vindication of Byron
By Michael Foot
Collins, £17.50

Michael Foot, the eminent parliamentarian, is a man full of surprises. He once wrote an essay entitled "The Good Tory". (It was a defence of Disraeli, after whom he also named his dog.) He has now commemorated his resignation from the leadership of the Labour Party, by producing a flaming great tome on the radical politics of the late Lord Byron, whose 200th birthday we celebrate.

It is a work of very considerable scholarship, the declared aim of which is to claim Milton, like Milton, for the Devil's Party; the poet "born for Opposition" (that's *Don Juan*, Canto 15), the defender of the Nottingham frame-breakers and the Ravenna Carbonari, the champion of Greek Independence and the Italian Risorgimento, and the "Romantic realist" whose sceptical theology contained but one certain conviction, that "God" — as Byron once confidently informed his making publisher — "that God will not be always a Tory".

It is written with all Mr Foot's old verve and charm, and reminds us plausibly — in case we had forgot — of the sublime, oracular Byron who scanned the horizon and proclaimed:

Yes, Freedom! 'tis thy banner, torn, but flying,
Streams like the thunder-storm against the wind;
Thy trumpet voice, though broken now and dying,
The loudless still the tempest leaves behind...

In fact, this strategic retreat to the

literary high ground (till "the good times come again", the phrase is Shelley's), is not altogether surprising to those familiar with the double nature of Mr Foot's career as politician and journalist. In 1957 he published a brilliant study of Swift and the Duke of Marlborough, *The Pen and the Sword*, in which he argued that a single pamphlet stopped a European war. In 1973 he completed his great biography of Nye Bevan. And since then he has produced a whole series of accomplished essays on rebel authors and journalists of the 18th and 19th centuries, such as Defoe, Tom Paine, and his special favourite William Hazlitt.

These works have mostly been the product of his periods in the wilderness, and the idea of refusing debate, of eternal defiance, seems to have inspired much of what is best in the present study. As Mr Foot writes in a key passage on the Russian socialist and exile, Alexander Herzen: "He discovered Byron in the darkest days of his own defeat, and he learnt how to hand on the sacred flame to Garibaldi, to the next generation of Italian revolutionaries who carried the cause to victory. His whole temper is Byronic."

The "sacred flame" is, of course, for Michael Foot essentially political, and this reading of Byron omits, or severely invites, much of the other phosphorescences — the traveller, the bisexual lover, the dilettante, the satanic humorist of the Letters and *Don Juan*. Nevertheless, Mr Foot is far too good a Romantic critic to decline into mere socialist propaganda.



Though he does have his Quixotic eccentricities — Byron as dog-lover is one thing, but Byron as incipient feminist is quite another; and there are those who might find his comparison of Lady A, "the princess of parallelisms", to Mrs T, a touch *outré*.

Yet for the most part his interpretation is historically cogent, and his sense of Byron's irony, his self-contradictions, his "ferocious Caravaggio style", is remarkably refreshing. Quoting, with customary originality, from a long section of the poem "Dante's Prophecy", he asks thoughtfully: "Was Byron's predominant interest political, in this instance, stirred by his involvement in the movement of Italian liberation, or was he not always obsessed much more with his own exile, and the universal sense of man's exile from truth or a tolerable existence?" It is impossible to follow Mr Foot's deeply personal analysis of such "mighty issues" without fascination and sympathy.

But the book does have two crucial weaknesses. One is its very uneven intellectual structure. The first quarter concentrates exclusively on Hazlitt, as a formidable critic of Byron, but then largely abandons Hazlitt's position for the more popular hope that he actually met Byron (when collaborating on *The Liberal*) their differences would have been reconciled.

There is something Panglossian about this. Mr Foot also seems very uneasy about Shelley's utopian critique of Milton's pessimism — a powerful one — attempting to turn it aside throughout with hushing rhetoric. Moreover, Byron's actual debate in Greece is dismissed in seven pages — yet this was the real test of his revolutionary spirit.

Secondly, Mr Foot seems to

have lost — or temporarily mislaid — much of the incisive, animated style of his earlier essays. Being neither quite biography nor criticism, the "Vindication" too often drifts into an uplifting, tractarian mode of inspirational discourse, content to display Byron's glittering lines like so many jewels laid in old red velvet. The best writing often appears in the extensive bibliographic footnotes, which go about delivering cuffs and accolades among the Byron scholars with studious partiality and wit. Many of Michael Foot's finest speculations are found here, *au pied de la lettre* so to speak, such as his "thesis" that Byron has always been best understood by women, who are in a sense part of Nature's permanent Opposition, and who will always triumph in the end. A properly subversive thought, from the Old Lucifer himself.

It would be disingenuous to pretend that such a Tract for the

Times as Foot's Byron will not attract much criticism on these, and other, grounds. It is not a book for the faint-hearted, either in politics or poetry. Yet it is written with such evident passion, such generosity of spirit, such a stirring belief in the liberating power of literature, that it should surely be welcomed with open arms — even if it is read at arm's length. But for those of uncontrollably nervous literary disposition, I can also recommend a more conventional treatment, *Byron's Travels (Sidgwick & Jackson, £14.95)* by Allan Massie, to be published later this month. This is a crisp, highly intelligent narrative of Milford's whereabouts and whatabouts in the Mediterranean, with many picturesque and soothing illustrations. It is a book that will drive you abroad, rather than to the barricades. Both destinations have their attractions, as Byron knew.

Born to rule

Charles Bruce

THE ELGINS: 1766-1917
By Sydney Checkland
Aberdeen University, £25

The Elgins tells the story of an ancient Scottish family over a period of 150 years. Fashionable interest in this book will be generated by the chapters on Thomas, the 7th Earl, who gave his name to the Marbles. Though Elgin's reputation has suffered from political inactivity and historical inaccuracy, Checkland does not try to exonerate him. Instead he restores the balance by presenting a moving story of a man driven by ambition to achieve the highest ideals in public life, but defeated by a conspiracy of misfortune.

Thomas left his heirs an estate, hopelessly over-gear'd and saddled with outrageous debts incurred by his Embassy to Constantinople and his subsequent collection of the Marbles. By 1827, these had reached £100,000 (£4m in today's prices). From such a morass of penny emerged the 8th Earl, James, whose imperial exploits inspired Checkland to write.

Behind the perceived history of the British Empire — the jingoism in politics or poetry. Yet it is written with such evident passion, such generosity of spirit, such a stirring belief in the liberating power of literature, that it should surely be welcomed with open arms — even if it is read at arm's length. But for those of uncontrollably nervous literary disposition, I can also recommend a more conventional treatment, *Byron's Travels (Sidgwick & Jackson, £14.95)* by Allan Massie, to be published later this month. This is a crisp, highly intelligent narrative of Milford's whereabouts and whatabouts in the Mediterranean, with many picturesque and soothing illustrations. It is a book that will drive you abroad, rather than to the barricades. Both destinations have their attractions, as Byron knew.

Tough but tender singer of blues

There is a wise sadness at the heart of Richard Ford's writing: the knowledge of contemporary American loneliness. The people in this marvelous book of short stories have no fixed points; they have moved away from their childhood town, or their first marriage, and lost track of parents who have usually split up themselves. They live on the fringes of legality, matter of fact about car theft and bad cheques. Motels and interstate highways are the natural landscape of their lives.

Perhaps the most affecting of the stories are those of childhood recollections; frightening incidents, misunderstood at the time, misshape the lives that follow. "Later I would think I should have gone with her, and that things between them might have been different." Every detail has a kind of tough sadness: where people work, what they eat, what they listen to on the car radio. Behind precisely accurate dialogue, Ford lets us make out the vulnerability of people whose tenderness rarely finds expression. A man on the way to jail looks for affection from his divorced wife whom he still loves; in the title

story, a man avoids an argument with the girlfriend who is leaving him. The writing is simple and lyrical in a way that recalls Hemingway without falling into his cadences. "And as I lay in the grey light smoking, while the refrigerator clicked..." Alongside *The Sports Writer*, *Rock Springs* confirms Ford's place among our finest writers.

While Kathy Acker's wit and energy are unmistakable, I can't accept her vision of the world. It is always dodgy to take De Sade as a heroic figure; once writers indulge brutal fantasy in which blood-letting and erotic are conjoined, it is difficult for them to make political objections to anything the CIA might do with the results of Nazi experiments. Acker's story is shared between her heroine, Abhor, raped by her father at 14, who escapes to Algeria to find a landscape of innocence; and Abhor's lover Thirai who runs away to sea as a pirate cheerfully acknowledging his wish to find human beings he can slaughter. They meet from time to time as they travel about a planet racked by lust and cruelty, and make love. However, in pockets of peace

FICTION

Elaine Feinstein

ROCK SPRINGS

By Richard Ford

Collins Harvill, £10.95

EMPIRE OF THE SENSELESS

By Kathy Acker

Picador, £10.95

PUSHKIN HOUSE

By Andrei Bitov

Translated by Susan Brownberger

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95



Ford on the fringes of life

celibacy has come to be preferred because of sexually transmitted diseases. There are some elegant one-line jokes on the way through the novel. I enjoyed "Berne as the Hollywood set for death", and I was intrigued by passages of pastiche Ginsberg: "I saw my friends in that brothel destroyed by madness starving hysterical naked/who descended into nihilism, who descended deeper than nihilism into the grey of yuppie

life." Acker's punk prose, which uses obscenities to replace words like love, undercuts any ordinary expectation of what life could hold for her characters; but since I can't celebrate Algerian revolution in the streets of Paris, and I don't believe in a Day of Allah when there will be no more loneliness, and I can't read the pretty passages of Arabic writing which decorate several pages, the novel left me feeling sick and empty.

The Pushkin House of Bitov's title is a literary institute in Leningrad where the novel opens, the day after annual October Revolution celebrations, with the discovery of the hero's apparently lifeless body. A densely written book, which has notes and epigraphs like scholarly criticism, it teases the reader with alternative stories and different ways of presenting character in a fashion that has become a commonplace in Western post-modernist fiction, but runs altogether against the habits of Soviet realism. This is fitting in a book which is largely about the passage of Soviet time. Bitov, like his hero Lyova, was born at the height of Stalin's purges and graduated from secondary school on the day of Stalin's death. Changes in political behaviour are recorded in habits of conversation, attitudes, and dress with a satirical lightness that I found wholly admirable. I particularly enjoyed the author's awkwardly conflicting memories of a grandfather unjustly sentenced and rehabilitated, and a *tour de force* of a drunken party for several pages, the novel left me feeling sick and empty.

There was a time when the Inspector Wexford mysteries, set in traditional market-town Whodunnitland of Kingsmarkham, were clearly distinguishable from Rendell's dark novels exploring criminal psychopathy and obsession. The latest Wexford includes characters and motives which could have strayed out of her other genre. And elderly woman is found garroted in the shopping mall's parking garage; a mother-foxed teacher is prime suspect; and in the temporary absence of Wexford (bomb-damaged in a slightly lame side-plot) sidekick Inspector Michael Burden takes on the investigative hunt. Not vintage Rendell, and a slight feeling that she is tiring of her coppers.

Endearing ham Sheridan Haynes (first met in *A Three Pipe Problem*) is summoned by Symons to perform his one-man Sherlock Holmes show to Warren Waymark, rich reclusive and accumulator of Holmesiana. In Copenhagen, Haynes is offered a hitherto unknown Holmes novel, written in Conan Doyle's own hand. Deaths, disguises and deceptions follow in an entertaining, elegant, literate, affectionate homage by a writer on top form. A delight.

● *Basking*, by Michael Dibdin (Faber, £10.95). With no one else available, Commissioner Aurelio Zen, disgraced during the Aldo Moro affair, is sent to Perugia to take charge of police inquiries into the kidnapping of a rich indus-

Murky deep waters

CRIME

Marcel Berlins

THE VEILED ONE

By Ruth Rendell

Hutchinson, £10.95

THE KENTISH MANOR MURDERS

By Julian Symonds

Macmillan, £9.95

triatist and paterfamilias. Resentful local police, an uncooperative multi-skeletoned family, and pressures from Zen's own domineering mother and impatient American lover combine splendidly in a convincing tale reeking of authentic Italian atmosphere and politics.

● *The Marshall and the Madwoman*, by Magdalen Nabb (Collins, £9.95). She writes about the Florence the tourist doesn't see — the lives and passions of its ordinary working citizens, the city's criminal underbelly, and the depressed suburbs outside the glamorous centre. The killing of an ex-inmate of the now-closed asylum has a motive in past secrets. Marshal Guarnaccia gloomily, patiently unravels. Comparisons with Simenon are not far-fetched.

● *Pale Kings and Princes*, by Robert B. Parker (Viking, £10.95). The estimably sensitive Boston shamus Spenser investigates death of reporter locking into cocaine-dealing in nearby hick town with more than its fair share of Colombians, tough cops, silent townsfolk and brooding sexual overtones. Spenser's unhappiness contrasts with readers' certain enjoyment at finding Parker in fine form.

● *Protection*, by Bill James (Constable, £9.95). A blow-lamp applied to a gangster's private parts is not appreciated by his colleagues, whose riposte is to kidnap the perpetrator's young son. The police are interested, not least because one of their own might be taking protection money from the troubled papa. Not for the squeamish or for believers in the police as a collection of Dock Green Dixons; but definitely for admirers of realistic and up-to-the-minute dialogue and situations, and gritty, flawed, human coppers.

● *Sideways*, by Charles Willeford (Gollancz, £10.95). Hoke Moseley, Miami homicide cop, has mental breakdowns and becomes caretaker of condominium in tacky development; an old man wrongly accused of child molesting finds a friend in ex-con planning supermarket hold-up. The raid becomes a massacre and Moseley returns. Willeford's extraordinary descriptions of place and people and his command of pace and action put him in the Elmore Leonard class.

● *A Lethal Vintage*, by Martin Sylvester (Michael Joseph, £11.95). Witty romp with hedonistic oenologist William Warner, starting with the Chelsea shooting of his sexy wife's interior decorator and probably lover, and taking in docklands corruption and Bavarian nookies on the way to a breathless finale. Pert dialogue, unlagging action and chuckles.

Hybrid spring greens

GARDENING

Ruth Stungo

In the spring growth of gardening books it is the incessant search for a different approach that has given rise to today's race of hybrids, topic books that are neither flesh nor fowl, and oddly unsatisfactory.

● *Take The Gardens of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother* (Viking, £14.95) "a personal tour with the Marchioness of Salisbury". A sure winner you might suppose, combining as it does the element of royalty-watching that must surely have some appeal, perhaps unacknowledged, for us all [speak for yourself, Ed.], a famous and knowledgeable author, and lovely pictures of the four royal gardens — Royal Lodge, Clarence House, the Castle of Mey, and Birkhall. Gardens always reveal something of their owners; and what gardener cannot have been curious at some time to know what lies behind the palace wall? Lady Salisbury has done a great deal of homework and has a felicity of phrase. Yet, to my mind, it doesn't quite work: something to do, perhaps, with a curiously disconcerting lack of a single point of view.

● *The Art of the Garden*, by Ethne Clarke (Michael Joseph, £14.95) is a similar hybrid, not helped by a title which gives little clue to its actual subject matter. It is a history of the parallel development of the kitchen garden and the cooking for which it provided the raw ingredients, from medieval times to the end of the 18th century. A narrower approach, more fully explored, might have

been even better. Does one actually want such diverse information within one cover? Both the garden and the kitchen would be too messy for such a pretty book.

● I would not have expected to enjoy yet another book about town-dwellers creating a country cottage if ever there was one. Yet *The Making of an English Country Garden (Chatto & Windus, £10.95)* is a total delight, because its author Deborah Kellaway writes so well. It is a deceptively simple, almost matter of fact, account of making a garden round a Norfolk cottage from an unpromising, badly-oriented field. Someone who describes teaching a clematis where to go as having "a finicky fascination rather like doodling", who can encapsulate an impression in a simile, who can actually admit to enjoying tidying up at the end of the year — "like tidying up a house after a riotous party" — is someone I know I should like. Add to this her awareness of time's part in the making of a satisfactory garden and her attention to the rightness of a plant for its intended situation, and you know you are in the hands of a cunning and clever gardener.

More book reviews on page 18

CENTURY HUTCHINSON

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BOOKS 2

Polished poet,
Venus' clerk

Peter Jones

OVID RENEWED
Edited by Charles
Martindale
Cambridge, £29.50

Take Chaucer, add a little Shakespeare, sprinkle liberally with Handel, cover with a generous helping of Boucher, and top with sprigs of Belloc and Ewart and a frond of Jeffrey Archer. Turn it all into Latin and you have Ovid. What a gift he has been to literature! Name a challenge and he would take it on. Virgil does not tell us what song Orpheus sang to still the shades of Hades, but Ovid does. Virgil does not explain why Orpheus' song, which could charm the animate and inanimate alike, was unable to prevent the Maenads from ripping him apart, but Ovid does (they created such a din that the stones they were hurling, initially charmed by Orpheus into falling short, could no longer hear his song and so began to strike home). In every literary arena, Ovid took on all-comers — parody, wit, rhetoric, sensuality, pathos, lyric, intimacy, epic grandeur. He tried it in politics too (with the Emperor's daughter) but this time he lost. (Hands up anyone who thought Archer was in for his literary skill.)

In a generation, when Mr Baker's exciting national curriculum has killed off all subjects except those of his choice, no one in England at any rate will be equipped to produce such a survey of Ovidian influences from the

Middle Ages to the 20th century as Charles Martindale has edited; and this first-rate collection of essays, of which Martindale's introduction is a model, is an indication of what our artists and poets, cut off from the fount of our traditional eloquence, will be missing.

The 12th-century renaissance, when Western man's eyes began slowly to be reopened to this world's secular as well as religious pressures, heralded the *aetas Ovidiana*: Ovid, the rakish man of the world, perfectly caught the mood. But the Christian Church did not stand idly by. The 14th-century *Ovide Moralisé*, a poem of 70,000 verses, showed what Christian allegory could do to the old reprobate, and the Daedalus and Icarus story, beautifully pursued down the ages by Niall Rudd, became a symbol of Christ's ascension into the heavens, but with a warning: aspire (= fly) at a level appropriate to mankind. Chaucer, as Helen Cooper argues,

resisted this slick moralization. Literature was emphatically not "the handmaid of ethics": as with Ovid, the story in all its multifariousness was the thing.

Ovid's appeal to Donne and the Elizabethans, Laurence Lerner shows, lay in Ovid's ability to reconcile the twin claims of wit and sensuousness: the age, as ours, was fascinated by sex, generation, and death, and no one could play the amusing and pointed master of those ceremonies better than Ovid. Llewellyn on the artists' use of Ovid, Trickett on the Augustans' fascination with Ovid's *Heroides* (an epistolary monologue about women's love), Vance on the 19th-century response — slight, but Walter Pater could still talk in Wordsworthian terms of Ovid's "pathos caught from humbler things" — and Medcalf on Ovid and *The Waste Land* indicate the range and importance of this collection. Those who read it will not only go straight back to Ovid (pleasure enough); they will also understand a little more about the well-springs of poets' and artists' creativity in the days when they had the intelligence to take their inspiration from a 2,000-year-old, publicly endorsed tradition of excellence. The price of abandoning that tradition is visible all round us today.

NEW HARDBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books:

Elephant Memories, by Cynthia Moss (Elm Tree, £15.95). Unsentimental account of 13 years in the life of an elephant family.

Gorbals Boy at Oxford, by Ralph Glasser (Chatto & Windus, £11.95). Vol. 2 of this fine autobiography of the psychologist & economist.

Kent, by Nigel Nicholson (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95). Superior coffee-table historical picture book by Patrick Sutherland.

Living by the Sword, by Stephen Green (Faber, £14.95). US-Israeli abrasive relations with countries of the Middle East, 1968-87.

Mamet, by Pierre Courthion (Thames & Hudson, £12.95). Concise version of the definitive tome of our enigmatic first modern artist.

Orphans of War, by Rosemary Taylor (Collins, £15). Australian teacher's brave work with the abandoned children of Vietnam 1967-75.

Queen Victoria is Very Ill, by Katharine Moore (Allison & Busby, £10.95). A century of memoirs of a clever nonagenarian novelist.

The Abbey Theatre, edited by E.H. Mikhail (Macmillan, £29.50). Interviews and recollections from admirably variegated witnesses.

The Faces of Hemingway, edited by Denis Brian (Grafton, £14.95). Interviews, memories, self-promoting views by those who knew him.

We Don't Play It for Fun, by Don Mosey (Methuen, £10.95). Yorkshire cricket, which is seldom fun to watch these days, except off the pitch, but confirms the bizarre Yorkshire chip and inferiority complex.

Hidden deep in Benoit Peeters' definitive new collection of Hergé's juvenilia is an apocalyptic illustration of Bambi, looking not like Disney's stylized wimpish French poodle, but a frightened black sheep. The wood-cut is just one of an astonishing variety of experiments in style and typography: from Beardsley-like faces to patriotic frescoes, from Bisto kids to art deco fashion plates. But whereas Disney never developed beyond a masterly visual technique and a fixation with fairy tales, Hergé proceeded to write the history of the 20th century in *bande dessinée*: Soviet Russia, colonialism, the Sino-Japanese War, the moon-shot, Out of Grimm, gangster movies and Chicago came Disney. Out of Tyrolean folk art, Catholicism, and Scouting came Tintin.

Was Tintin a Scout? One distinctly propagandist spread con-



Ovid with his verse made Orpheus and Eurydice sing for us for ever

Tintin's
toggle

Martin Spence

HERGE
1922-32: Les débuts d'un
illustrateur
By Benoit Peeters
Casterman, £26

trasts an early Yuppie's ignorance of how the necessities of life reach him, and his enjoyment of the pernicious and manufactured entertainment of the screen, with a Scout's self-help and creation of his own entertainment around the camp-fire. But in 1926, when he

was 19, Hergé began *The Adventures of Tintin*, the *Patrol Leader of the Maybuds* in the monthly *Belgian Boy Scout*. Tintin's moon face and snub nose are Tintin's, and every page is stamped *Hergé Moving Pictures*. This is cinema on paper. The thrillingly illicit influence is everywhere. But it determines form, not content. Tintin, transported to the States, shoots hordes of redskins, rescues his giddy aunt from gangsters, and discovers treasure which he gives to the Scouting movement.

These are the breathless narratives, frenziedly rambling, packed with the absurd gags and crazy chases of early comedies and Westerns — of *Indiana Jones* and *The Temple of Doom*. They do indeed have all the technical virtuosity of Spielberg, who has just secured the film rights to Tintin. But how will Baden Powell meet Hollywood?

THE ARTS

The way America
joined the war

TELEVISION

David Dimbleby's *An Ocean Apart* (BBC1) is turning out to be an absorbing account of Anglo-American relations. Last night's instalment covered the ferocious debate about whether America should become involved in the Second World War.

British Cabinet minutes and the recollection of those close to the Churchill-Roosevelt discussions combined to suggest that Roosevelt frankly hoodwinked the American people at the time of his re-election into thinking he did not wish for any involvement in a war.

More controversial, perhaps, was the implication that Chamberlain appeased Hitler because he knew he could not rely on American support.

The popular rallies of Charles Lindbergh, leading the anti-British cause in the States, were alarming to see, only the visit of King George VI and his Queen in 1939 helped to shift popular opinion there.

Still, with the Neutrality Act in force, the Americans had to resort to such hilarious tactics as bringing aircraft up to the Canadian border, and pelting them across with horses into Canada, where Commonwealth pilots could fly them.

David Dimbleby tells his story

well (though there is slightly too much pacing around and gesticalness). It is also refreshing in such a map-documentary series to find that he does the interviewing of witnesses himself and is allowed to converse with them rather than simply drawing stock statements from them.

This is Europe Against Cancer Week, and *Horizon* (BBC2) produced a programme in collaboration with the EEC which was aimed at demonstrating that cancer may be controlled by dietary habits.

The density of information provided by computers, coloured maps of different cancers in different bits of Europe, was confusing. Add to that the pictorial images of food being consumed in all corners of the continent, and I ended up in some doubt as to what I was meant to do next.

Eat less, for sure. Not too much sun, unless I am a Mediterranean peasant. High fibre, probably, except that in Africa... low fat, perhaps, except that in Greece... ah well, pass the doughnuts.

William Holmes

Stokowski of the East

RPO/Inoue
Festival Hall

CONCERT

On the strength of last night's Mozart and Mahler performances it seems that the Japanese have found, in Michiyoshi Inoue, a conductor of remarkable character.

"Found" is probably a gross slur on the famously diligent Japanese way of training musicians. One imagines that Inoue had a quarter size baton thrust into his infant hand while he was still toddling round the nursery. Now he is conductor of major orchestras in Japan and New Zealand, and ought to have a considerable career in the West as well.

Some of what he did in Mahler's Sixth Symphony I found simultaneously overwhelming and appalling. The extremely slow speed of the first two movements, the passionate but over-indulgent rubatos, the blasted brass lines, the expansion of minor crescendos into major earthquakes. All this seemed sincerely felt, but liable to

coarsen the emotional impact. But it is rare to encounter a conductor who has so strikingly individual a vision along with the technique to realize it precisely. There was a touch of Stokowski about both his penchant for dynamic extremes and his extraordinary delineation of complex textures.

He pulled the music around boldly yet always carried the players with him.

Before this beast came beauty, in profusion. For Mozart's Piano Concerto in C, K467, Jon Kimura Parker revealed a delicate, subtle side to his pianism that he has hitherto kept modestly hidden. Complementing his sparkling fingerwork, Inoue kept the orchestral sound airy and immaculately balanced, and thus demonstrated a different side to his musicianship.

Richard Morrison

LONDON
DEBUTS

Of two new ensembles appearing on the same night, the London Music at St John's, Smith Square, is aiming at new commissions as well as repertory music for up to 15 strings and harpsichord. Formed and conducted by Mark Stephenson, a Philharmonia Orchestra cellist, they were joined by flautist Karen Jones for a spirited B minor Suite (No.2) by Bach.

Musical assurance was evident in the first London performance of Richard Rodney Bennett's *Ophe- lia*, a 1987 setting of Rimbaud's mood-portrait in a collage of timbre and texture. A harp stitched Michael Chance's plaintive countertenor to the nine accompanying strings, while the oily, serpentine tones of the oboe martenot (Cynthia Miller) served mostly to gild the Opelian lily.

The group Tragicomedia at Wigmore Hall was formed and directed by the lutenist Stephen Stubbs for music from Renaissance to Baroque. Their imaginative programme, called "The Amorous Dialogue: Love, Flowers and Death" explored in particular the dialogue-form between instruments and between voices. From what I heard of Monteverdi, Stefano Landi and especially Nicola Fontana's *Lilla e Lido*, featuring John Potter and David Cordier, in a tenor-countertenor duo, the ensemble's elegant style becomes its scholarship.

Noriko Ogawa made it easy to understand why she aroused such enthusiasm at last year's Leeds International Piano Competition, in spite of being placed third. Her Wigmore Hall programme combined breathtaking command of the keyboard and a willingness to take risks, as well as the ability to think herself into romantic Schumann as convincingly as chiselled Prokofiev.

The former's *Fantasia*, Op.17, was played with fanciful imagination on a scale less like a musical water-colour than a Kurosawa film epic.

Breadth of musicality was never in doubt as Tragicomedia encompassed a variety of style in her Purcell Room programme. Already much travelled for her youth, the violinist was notably responsive to the quiet rapture and poetic fancy of Debussy's Sonata No.2.

In the first performance of the short *Artoso* by James Rolfe, a long, expressive violin line was accompanied by folk-like piano harmonies from Piers Lane.

Noël Goodwin

British Gas
Treasures
the Arts

As one of Britain's major companies, British Gas is committed to a vigorous policy of giving support and encouragement to the arts.

In the field of music, for instance, British Gas is a corporate sponsor of the major London orchestras, the Royal Opera House, the English National Opera, and Glyndebourne Opera. We also support, through our Regions, many musical organisations and events all over the United Kingdom. This year, for the first time, we are also sponsoring the Carl Flesch International Violin Competition, which is being held in October.

Another of our major sponsorships — for the third year running — is Cathedral Classics, an annual series of concerts held in twenty-one of Britain's finest cathedrals and abbeys, featuring the London Festival Orchestra, various leading soloists and, in most cases, the cathedral choir and choirmaster.

You will find details of this year's concerts on the right. They provide a unique opportunity to treasure Britain's musical talents in truly magnificent environments.

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Summer Festival of Music in Cathedrals

21 May - 7 July 1988
London Festival Orchestra
Director Ross Pople

Saturday 21 May	Ripon Cathedral
Tuesday 28 May	St Albans Cathedral
Tuesday 31 May	St Paul's Cathedral
Friday 3 June	Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford
Saturday 4 June	Rochester Cathedral
Tuesday 7 June	Exeter Cathedral
Thursday 9 June	Peterborough Cathedral
Friday 10 June	Leicester Cathedral
Saturday 11 June	Manchester Cathedral
Sunday 12 June	St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh
Monday 13 June	Paisley Abbey
Tuesday 14 June	Durham Cathedral
Wednesday 15 June	Blackburn Cathedral
Thursday 16 June	St Asaph Cathedral
Friday 17 June	Wakefield Cathedral
Saturday 18 June	Lincoln Cathedral
Friday 23 June	Llandaff Cathedral
Saturday 25 June	Worcester Cathedral
Wednesday 29 June	Salisbury Cathedral
Saturday 2 July	Hexham Abbey
Thursday 7 July	Westminster Abbey

featuring the cathedral choirs, choirmasters and organists, and soloists of London Festival Orchestra.

Guest soloists include Eleanor Bron, Heather Harper, Sarah Walker, Hilken Hardenberger, Neil Jenkins, Ian Munro, Anthony Rolfe Johnson.

For full details and booking information, send S.A.S. to Festival Box Office, PO Box 287, West Byfleet, Surrey KT13 9BD.

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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **ALPHA BETA:** George Coshgan and Gillian Brown as the unloving married couple shattering and shattering each other in Ted Whitehead's drama. Men in the Moon, 392 King's Road SW10 (01-831 2874). Tube: Sloane Square, then bus down the Kings Road. Opens 7-9pm, then Tues-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, 24.

★ **ANYTHING FOR A QUIET LIFE:** Theatre de Complicité up to their latest ingenious antics, this time focussing on the comic wit of the office life. Half Moon Theatre, 213 Mile End Road E1 (01-790 4000). Tube: Stepney Green. Mon-Sat 8-9.30pm, £3.50-£5.50.

★ **BACK WITH A VENGEANCE:** Darius Edna Everage back again joshing the possums. Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2650). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 8-11pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.30pm. £5.50-£17.50. Ends July 9.

★ **THE COMMON PURSUIT:** Simon Gray plays the fortunes of underdog underdogs, splendidly led by John Gorton. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-836 2234). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Thurs 8-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 8-11pm, mat Fri and Sat 2-5.15pm, £5-£14.50.

★ **EASY VIRTUE:** Attractive revival of Noel Coward 1926 with Jane Horrocks as the scandalizing her teenage husband's faithful county folks. Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-379 5107). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.15pm, £5.50-£12.50.

★ **EMERALD CITY:** Australian hit comedy by David Williamson giving the lowdown on down under. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (01-437 3688). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Previews from tonight. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mat Thurs 3-5.15pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.15pm, then times as before, 24-£11.50.

★ **MARRIED LOVE:** New Peter Luke play starring Susan Hampshire as Marie Stopes, mother of birth control. Directed by John Gorton. Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-836 2234). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mat Wed 3-5.15pm, mat Thurs 3-5.15pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.15pm, then times as before, £5-£10.

★ **MOON ON A RAINBOW SHAWL:** Errol John's poignant 50s play: tensions in rural Trinidad. Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury. Previews from tonight. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-10.45pm, mat Sat 2.30-5.15pm, then times as before, £5-£10.

★ **THE TEMPEST:** Michael Bryant plays Prospero in Peter Hall's production, first in a trilogy of late Shakespearean National Theatre (Cottesloe). South Bank Theatre, London SE1 (01-582 2222). Tube: Waterloo. Previews tonight. 7.30-9.45pm. Opens May 19, 7.30-9.15pm, then in rep, £7.50.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

NINDON

(a) An extremely hypothetical particle of matter supposed to carry mental or telepathic messages, coined in 1971 by poet old Arthur Koestler for mind + -on

MOULLES

(b) French slang for the buttocks, cheeks, bum, or behind.

CONGRUENCES

(a) A disordered heap or aggregation, either of concrete things or of abstract concepts, etc., from the Latin congruere to collect or bring together.

TALON

(b) Cards left over after the deal in such games as cribbage or gin rummy, also the stock, pastera, or level.

LONG RUNNERS: ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Queens Theatre (01-734 1166). ★ The Business of Murder: Mayfair Theatre (01-529 3658). ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4078). ★ Chess: Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8851). ★ Kiss Me Kate: Savoy Theatre (01-379 5395). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/9109). ★ Les Liaisons Dangereuses: Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). ★ Me and My Girl: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). ★ Les Miserables: Palace Theatre (01-434 0505). ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ★ Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). ★ Run For Your Wife: Criterion Theatre (01-830 3210). ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8655). ★ And Then There Were None: Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

COVENTRY: ★ The Crucible: Andrew McCulloch stars in new production of Miller's witch-trial masterpiece. Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square (0203 553055). Mon-Thurs 7.30, Fri and Sat 8pm. Wed mat 2.30pm, £2-£6.20. (D)

LEICESTER: ★ French Without Tears: Ramona's first comedy set among students at a French cramming school. Haymarket Theatre, Belgrade Square (0533 539797). Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, £4-£8.50.

FILMS

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**

★ **BARFLY (18):** Charles Bukowski wrote the script for this humorous, semi-autobiographical look at life in a seedy Los Angeles bar. With Mickey Rourke as a self-styled poet of the bottle, and Faye Dunaway as his equally alcoholic companion. A first American film from the Swiss-French director Barbet Schroeder (95 min). Cannon Cinema Road (01-439 4470). Progs 1.40, 3.45, 5.50, 8.05, 10.10. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-836 6148). Progs 1.30, 3.35, 6.00, 8.25.

★ **COBRA VERDE (18):** A pale copy of Werner Herzog's past exercises in high adventure and visionary drama; with Klaus Kinski as a disgruntled South American rancher who takes his revenge through banditry (90 min). Sate (01-221 0220). Progs 2.30, 4.30, 6.40, 8.40. Renoir (01-837 8402). Progs 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.

★ **DEATH WISH IV - THE CRACKDOWN (18):** When his girlfriend's daughter dies of a drug overdose, Charles Bronson gets out the ammunition and blasts away (95 min). Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5801). Progs 2.45, 5.25, 8.25. Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 6.35, 8.35. Cannon Prince Charles (01-437 8181). Progs 1.55, 3.50, 6.05, 8.20.

★ **FLOWERS IN THE ATTIC (15):** Bookish version of C. Andrews's suspense novel about four children confined by their mother (Victoria Tennant) to an attic. Directed by Jeffrey Bloom (92 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45. Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 4.15, 6.40, 9.10. Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.25, 8.30.

★ **MAURICE (15):** Set before the First World War, E.M. Forster's novel about a gay man, with James Wilby as the suffering Maurice and Rupert Graves as the gamekeeper with whom he falls in love (140 min). Cannon Piccadilly (01-437 3561). Progs 2.00, 4.55, 7.50.

★ **NO WAY OUT (15):** Polished version of a film noir classic, The Big Clock, with a new Pentagon setting and a few extra twists. Gene Hackman plays the Defence Secretary with a crime to cover up; Kevin Costner is the luckless investigator. Roger Donaldson directs (114 min). Cannon Panton Street (01-830 0631). Progs 2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45.

★ **RETRIBUTION (18):** Dennis Lipson as a would-be suicide whose body is taken over by a murder victim bent on revenge (105 min). Cannon Baywater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.45, 5.30, 8.25. Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5801). Progs 2.45, 5.30, 8.20. Cannon Royal (01-830 8915). Progs 1.10, 3.35, 6.00, 8.25.

★ **THE SILENT GARDEN (15):** A suspense thriller, with James Wilby as the suffering Maurice and Rupert Graves as the gamekeeper with whom he falls in love (140 min). Cannon Piccadilly (01-437 3561). Progs 2.00, 4.55, 7.50.

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Proms people: from left, John Pritchard, chief conductor, BBC Symphony Orchestra; John Williams, making his debut; Sir Charles Mackerras, returning with the Australian Youth Orchestra; the late Percy Grainger, whose 1921 piano-roll recording of Grieg's Piano Concerto will be played on the last night; and Andrew Davis, who will conduct it

Regular Promenade concerts cannot fail to notice the words "Special Offer" etched in lilac and dotted about this year's programme, published yesterday, in an attempt to encourage audiences for new music, the BBC is offering vouchers representing up to 24 off tickets for concerts featuring works commissioned for this season. Otherwise, the booking arrangements are as usual. Tickets for the last night are expected to sell out within four or five days, and only about one in three applicants will be lucky. They must make five other bookings to qualify. Postal booking (from Promenade Concerts Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, London SW7 2AP) begins on May 6; telephone (01-379 4444) and box office booking on June 13. Principal concerts (week by week) are:

July 22: BBC SO & Chorus/Pritchard: Verdi (Requiem), Elgar (Psalms), Stravinsky (Maurus), Tchaikovsky (Hamlet), Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No. 1), Sibelius (Piano Concerto No. 2), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 3), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 4), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 5), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 6), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 7), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 8), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 9), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 10), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 11), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 12), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 13), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 14), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 15), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 16), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 17), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 18), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 19), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 20), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 21), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 22), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto No. 23), Shostakovich (Piano Concerto 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Japan is urged to embrace imports

By Nicholas Wood and Andrew McEwen

Mrs Margaret Thatcher last night set British industry the target of doubling its exports to Japan over the next three years as she strongly urged the Far Eastern economic giant to lower its remaining barriers to free trade.

At a Downing Street dinner in honour of Mr Noboru Takeshita, the visiting Japanese Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher said: "We recognize and welcome the fact that Japan is now importing more."

"But we would like to see it taken further still, to the point where it is as natural for your people to buy the best, whether it is made at home or imported from abroad, as it is for ours."

"And so we should increase our trade. British exports to Japan have grown 50 per cent in the last two years. I should like to set the objective of doubling them in the next three."

The Prime Minister was speaking after holding private talks with Mr Takeshita at which she sought to clear up the "unfinished business" of the tax on imported Scotch whisky and additional taxes on the Tokyo stock exchange for British securities firms.

She reminded Mr Takeshita that since Elizabethan times the British people had been

Closer ties...
Geoffrey Smith...
Leading article...13

accustomed to buying products from every corner of the world. They expected them to be allowed into the country without hindrance, and they judged them not on place of origin but on interest, merit and value for money.

"They find it hard to understand why that cannot be the case the other way," she said.

Mrs Thatcher welcomed Japanese investment in Britain, which had doubled over the last two years, and said Japanese management and a British workforce was an unbeatable combination.

She said that her meeting with Mr Takeshita was a new chance for the two countries to establish an excellent working relationship. "We need to act together in the Economic Summit to try to ensure continued economic growth and therefore the expansion of trade," she said.

Mrs Thatcher's decision to raise in forceful terms the British concern about Japanese trade barriers was seen as a move to operate on the Tokyo stock exchange was bound to be unwelcome to Mr Takeshita.

He had wanted to keep the focus on mainstream international affairs.

In a speech at the Mansion House just before their talks, she avoided any direct reference to the two issues and concentrated on Japan's desire for a stronger partnership with Europe and the United States in seeking solutions to regional conflicts.

Princess comforts IRA shooting victim



Princess Margaret visiting Senior Aircraftman Richard Garth, who survived when the car he was sitting in was raked with gunfire, in hospital at Wegberg.

British bases put on maximum security alert

Continued from page 1

Officials believe that the IRA attacks on British service men have been carried out with "indispensable" West German terrorist assistance, and that the IRA, using a network of Euro-terrorists built up over some 10 years, has decided to attack British military targets in Europe as a "soft option".

Forensic experts were yesterday trying to discover if the Bielefeld bomb had the same "signature" as that used in Nieuw Bergen. But military sources thought it unlikely that the same IRA team or individual had planted the Nieuw Bergen bomb, driven 30 miles south to attack the airman at Roermond, and then driven 120 miles to Bielefeld.

"We are dealing here with simultaneous attacks by different teams, which suggests a

sophisticated and very expensive operation," one source said.

Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the West German Interior Minister, said recently that West German police had arrested 20 terrorists over the past five years. But the Red Army Faction, which emerged from the ashes of the notorious Baader Meinhof gang about 10 years ago, has survived.

New "revolutionary cells" have been created and strong links have been formed with the IRA, the Italian Red Brigades and the French terrorist group Action Directe. Herr Zimmermann said there had been no "let up" in the European terrorists' war on society, and there must be no let up in society's response.

"Europe might not seem all that soft when you consider that police on the continent

are armed and any chase is likely to end in a shoot-out" one source said.

"On the other hand, it is much easier to get away, and there is a network of terrorist support," said one German source. "In The Netherlands or Germany you just slip across a border on good fast roads. In the UK you are trapped on an island."

The decision to order the highest security category, taken jointly by senior Army and RAF commanders in Germany, was made because of concern that the warnings in the last few days were not being taken seriously enough.

Sources said that everyone would be expected to spend at least three or four minutes examining their car every time before they drove them. "They must check underneath from end to end and from side to side," said one senior Army

officer. "We now know what we're looking for, so we have to be absolutely on our guard."

The device found under the car of a captain in the car park at Rippon Barracks in Bielefeld on Tuesday was the size of a shoebox. The bomb was attached to the car by a magnet.

The discovery of the bomb has given the security forces in Germany the first positive lead on the sort of device they now have to look for.

The Army captain had looked underneath his car but the small bomb at the front had escaped his notice. He had originally parked his car in a side street near the officers' mess. When he drove to the barracks he told the guard at the gate that he had looked under his car and he was allowed in.

A memorial service was

held at a Catholic church in Nieuw Bergen for the airman who died. People in the town expressed deep respect for the dead at the memorial service but the respect was tinged with fear that Nieuw Bergen, Roermond and Bielefeld form a pattern, with more attacks to come.

There was high security for Princess Margaret's visit to RAF Bruggen, another of the RAF bases on the Dutch-German border, and for her subsequent visit—a departure from her previously arranged schedule—to see Senior Aircraftman Garth and Lewis, who survived the Roermond shooting and are now in hospital at RAF Wegberg.

Military police Land-Rovers with mounted sub-machineguns guarded the gates of both bases. All cars entering and leaving were thoroughly checked under the new security procedures.

Commons sketch

Sir Geoffrey gets his titles right

The *New Statesman* recently staged a weekend competition for unlikely book titles. One of the winners was *Playboy Diplomat: The Life of Sir Geoffrey Howe*. This seems a little harsh. While Sir Geoffrey is rarely seen diving into New York night-clubs on the arms of Princess Stephanie of Monaco, he has a pleasant, bumbling manner which might well find him hobnobbing on occasion with some of the more risqué European Agricultural Ministers.

But some think that his liaisons with dusky Europeans has already gone far enough. Mr Ian Gow (*A Wild and Crazy Guy: The Middle Years of Ian Gow*) was up to no good. "There are many of us who view with dismay the replacement of the British passport with the common EEC passport," he boomed, adding, "The day of the nation state is not yet over!"

Sir Geoffrey looked a little surprised. If his wrist-watch was correct, his expression seemed to imply, the day of the nation state had only a few more minutes to go. But he tends to avoid the cut-and-thrust of politics, preferring the milder and more approach, so he made every effort to bore his way out of Mr Gow's quaint old English cul-de-sac.

"There is a wide range of feeling about the pattern which might be followed in the...," he began, and already the most highly motivated of whirling dervishes would have found himself dreaming of Horlicks and a spot of shut-eye. "development of the EEC," he continued. "The original agreement that there should be a common-format passport was made as long ago as 1975 by the then Prime Minister."

"The then Prime Minister?" To whom could he be referring? Even the most experienced of political observers find their memories clogging up when forced to recall the appointments of such an age gone by. Wasn't Mr Eric Morcom the Prime Minister for a short time in the mid-Seventies? Or perhaps Miss Noelle Gordon? It took the memoirist's history cal powers of Mr Jonathan Aitken (*My Mission to Explain: The Autobiography of Jonathan Aitken*) to come up with the correct answer.

"It's been a long time since we've had a British Tory Foreign Secretary sheltering behind the coat-tails of Sir Harold Wilson!" he exclaimed. Ah yes! Harold Wilson (*The Governance of Britain*)! Funny little fellow. Smoked a pipe. Long forgotten. Once met Cilla Black. Alas, Sir Geoffrey grew huffy at the analogy. "There's no question of my sheltering behind anyone's coat-tails, least of all Sir Harold Wilson's", he began.

In his next few breaths, the full measure of Sir Geoffrey's annoyance could be gauged. Having said, "least of all Sir Harold Wilson's", he corrected himself. "Lord Wilson", he said. And then: "So sorry... Lord Wilson of Rievaulx" (This he pronounced with a contempt more usually reserved for used tissues found buried in forgotten pockets). And finally: "The Right Honourable and Noble Lord Wilson of Rievaulx". It is indicative of the usefulness of Sir Geoffrey's reticence that simply by groping his way through the rich and varied absurdities of someone's title he can reduce a reputation to nothing.

Foreign Office Questions plodded on. Sir Bernard Braine (*A Giggle or Two with Sir Bernie: Light-hearted Recollections of a Life in Politics*) thundered about the fate of the former Imperial Family of Ethiopia, his fulminations prompting his colleague Mr Neil Hamilton (*The Quest for Truth: An Appreciation of the BBC in the Eighties*) to a speedy impersonation.

The mere mention of the Sharpeville Six guarantees the sight of Tory Ogres leaping up and down in their seats, baring their teeth in pantomime style. Mr John Carls (*Stoko My Brother: Eric Forth (My Life in Reggae)*), but the Speaker called Mr Forth.

Mr Forth wished to know whether Sir Charles had congratulated the South African Government on the independence of its judiciary. For Mr Forth, this was mild indeed. In no time at all, he will be co-authoring *Domestic Tidings from the Land of Porgess: The Labour Left in Scotland* with Mr Ron Brown.

Craig Brown

Call for code on no-strike deals

By Roland Rudd

Trade unions will be allowed to give up the strike weapon in favour of compulsory binding arbitration but will be prohibited from signing deals which restrict wage limits, the leader of Britain's third largest trade union predicted yesterday.

Mr John Edmonds, general-secretary of the General Municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trade Union, yesterday said the only solution to end the inter-union dispute on single-union no-strike deals was not to ban such agreements but to draw up a code of practice which prevented unions selling workers' rights

for recognition.

In a wide-ranging interview with *The Times*, Mr Edmonds gave details of how the TUC special review body, which is expected to publish its report later this month, is aiming to minimize inter-union conflict in the wake of a damaging dispute over the loss of the Ford components factory in Dundee.

"It is legitimate to negotiate the strike weapon away in favour of arbitration if industrial action only damages the workforce," he said.

"There are people working in the contract business or in the caring business who can

not afford to go on strike. Arbitration can sometimes be a better option than striking."

Mr Edmonds, who has publicly criticized the electronics for signing no-strike deals, said he objected to the type of agreement which undermined workers' rights to a fair wage or to be represented on the shop floor.

But he thought it was impractical to outlaw no-strike deals and said that such a policy by the TUC would mean abolishing scores of agreements in the public sector which restrict the union's right to strike.

Mr Edmonds predicted that

the review body would draw up a new code of practice which would prohibit unions from signing deals which went "beyond the pale". Unions would not be allowed to restrict wage limits or agree not to organize the workforce on the shop floor.

It is now clear that with the centrist support of the GMB, the review body will not outlaw no-strike deals.

The electronics' union is unlikely to accept the restrictions on the deals it signs envisaged by Mr Edmonds. But the GMB believes the electronics will have no other choice.

Civil Service union rejects Militant

By Roland Rudd

The Militant Tendency has lost control of Britain's largest Civil Service union, the Civil and Public Services Association, to the National Moderate Group, it was disclosed yesterday.

Returns from more than 200 branches in the current executive elections show that the Militant-dominated branch Left, which last year took control of the union after capturing 20 of the 28 executive seats, has suffered a severe blow, losing overall control. Although voting does not officially end until tomorrow, early returns give the

moderate group an insurmountable lead.

Last night Mr John Ellis, the general secretary, said he was delighted with the news and revealed that he is planning to introduce sweeping changes in the election rules to comply with the law requiring secret postal ballots.

The association's conference, which meets next week, is still dominated by the broad Left and can be expected to vigorously oppose any constitutional changes which would put it at a disadvantage.

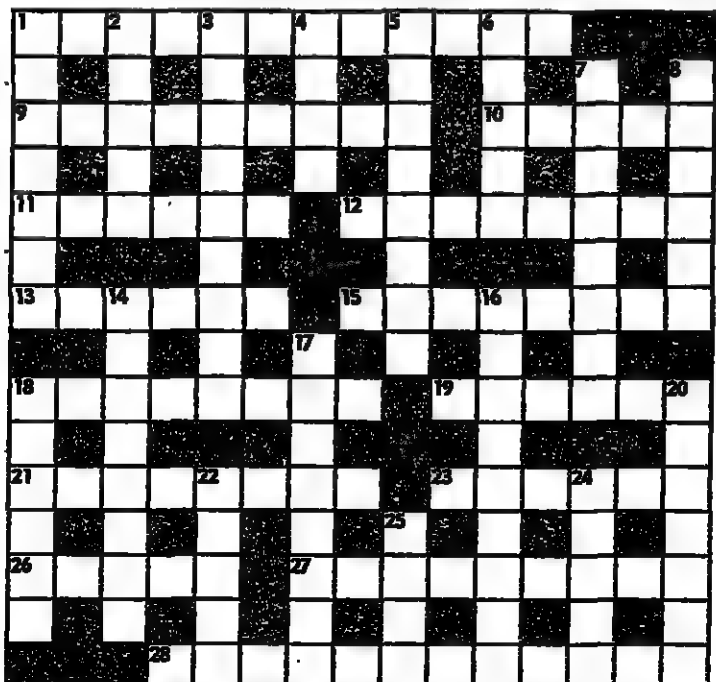
Mr Ellis said he would go over the heads of the con-

ference and ballot the 145,000 members directly.

The move will be fiercely resisted by Militant.

News of the results came after an acrimonious press conference attended by Mr Ellis and his deputy, Mr John Macreadie, a Militant supporter. Mr Macreadie admitted he had written to Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, without the support of the executive, asking for a special meeting of the TUC general council to call a one-day national strike in support of the seamen.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,661



- ACROSS**
- Progress with ease? Not so well (5,7).
 - Discount admission (9).
 - In Tokyo, took place of some Japanese (5).
 - Good times? Dangerous conclusion (6).
 - Studied exact tune again (8).
 - Loosen trousers (6).
 - Ancient Roman in power plant (8).
 - Sickness produced by turbulence (8).
 - Female quartet doing a turn in capital (6).
 - Use similar wood for small container (8).
 - NCO takes up for oral in a body (6).
 - Second Avenue, unlike Broadway? (5).
 - How laser was assembled in the first place (9).
 - Put down actor for musical production (6-6).
- DOWN**
- Worth little as cash crop? (7).

Concise crossword, page 11

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

MINDON

a. A mental particle

b. A type of china

c. A Thesaurus tyranicide

MOULLES

a. Shell fish

b. The hum

c. French galoshes

CONGERIES

a. A heap

b. Drinking glasses

c. Seals piles

TALON

a. A negative particle

b. Left-over cards

c. Ceremonial gloves

Answers page 20, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,660

STURGEON BOTTOM
A P U R E R I
N A S A L E M A N A T I O N
D E C R A M M D U
W A T C H W O R D G H E N T
H O L D I N G U
G U I N A S S A T T E S T
H N R A A C A R
E G G C U P C O N T A I N E R
F O R A A I N S T A T E V
T O N I M M H R
H O U R G L A S S A L I V E
O K E H O R S M
M I D D L E S N A P S H O T

WEATHER

Most central and southern parts of England and Wales will have a dry day with some sunshine. Northern England, Northern Ireland and southern and eastern Scotland will be more cloudy with showers. There should still be some sunshine in these parts but further north and west it will be cloudy with some light rain. Temperatures will be higher than yesterday's in most areas. Outlook: dry with some sunshine.

ABROAD

	C	F		C	F		C	F
Algeria	20	68		Madrid	17	63		
Alexandria	21	70		Manila	20	68		
Athens	22	72		Moscow	17	63		
Bombay	20	68		Nairobi	18	64		
Buenos Aires	17	63		Paris	14	57		
Calcutta	24	75		Rome	14	57		
Cairo	20	68		Sao Paulo	18	64		
Cardiff	18	64		Seoul	13	55		
Cebu	20	68		Stockholm	13	55		
Dhaka	20	68		Taipei	19	66		
Hong Kong	21	70		Tokyo	17	63		
London	15	59		Washington	13	55		
Lyons	15	59		Zurich	16	61		
Manila	20	68						
Mexico City	20	68						
Mumbai	20	68						
New Delhi	20	68						
Osaka	17	63						
Perth	15	59						
Rangoon	18	64						
San Francisco	13	55						
Singapore	20	68						
Sydney	15	59						
Taipei	19	66						
Tokyo	17	63						
Washington	13	55						
Zurich	16	61						

HIGH TIDES

	AM	PM	HT	HT
London Bridge	4.35	7.0	4.55	6.9
Abbeville	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Amersham	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Barnstaple	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Belfast	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Birkenhead	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Bournemouth	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Brighton	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Bristol	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Burton	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Cardiff	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Cherbourg	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Clydebank	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Colchester	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Consett	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Crewe	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Dover	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Edinburgh	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Exeter	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Falmouth	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Glasgow	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Grimsby	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Hull	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Inverness	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Leamington	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Leeds	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Leicester	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Liverpool	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
London	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Lyons	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Manchester	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Marazion	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Medway	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Merseyside	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Middlesbrough	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Millwall	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Milton Keynes	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Murdoch	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Newcastle	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Newport	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Nottingham	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Orkney	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Perth	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Portsmouth	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Reading	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Scarborough	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Sheffield	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Southampton	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Stirling	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Swansea	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Torquay	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Warrington	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Widnes	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Wolverhampton	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0
Wrexham	10.05	12.2	10.24	12.0

Times measured in metres. HT=2.29m.

Times are GMT

AR

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Thomson T-Line in £2m acquisition

Thomson T-Line, the industrial mini-conglomerate being built up by Mr Hugo Biermann and Mr Julian Askin, the joint chairmen, has agreed to buy Kelverdeck, a Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, distributor of power cable, for an initial payment of £2 million. Kelverdeck, which distributes to electrical contractors, wholesalers, and the electricity generating boards, made pretax profits of £169,000 on turnover of £7.8 million in the year to end-October.

The initial payment is made up half in cash and the rest in new Thomson shares. A deferred consideration of £1 million will be paid, to be reduced or increased depending on whether profits are more or less than £501,000 in the current financial year.

Profit soars at Corton

Corton Beach, the Third Market company involved in the production and marketing of speciality foods, motor trading, textiles and leisure, made pretax profits of £1.9 million in the year to the end of January against £742,000 in the previous year. Turnover rose to £49.3 million from £19.5 million. The total dividend was raised from 0.4p to 0.5p.

Society leaps to £2.6m

The Walthamstow Building Society, based in East London, has more than doubled its profits to £2.6 million for the year to the end of March. The society's assets are up by 31 per cent to £212 million and mortgage advances have increased by 20 per cent to £74 million. No decision has been taken yet by the society about converting to a plc.

£3m Mercury drive

Mercury Communications is launching its first big advertising campaign next week with a £3 million spend. Using a 60-second television commercial as the spearhead for six weeks in six ITV regions, the Cable and Wireless subsidiary is trying to raise its profile with businessmen.

The campaign will also use advertisements in the national Press. Customer benefits which will be highlighted include long-distance call savings, fully itemized bills for all customers and good service.

Sutcliffe in £1.4m deal

Sutcliffe, Speakman, the activated carbon maker and chemicals trader, has agreed to buy John F Seyfried & Sons, the Gloucestershire maker of processed ingredients and commodities for the food industry, for a maximum of £1.4 million. Seyfried made pretax profits of £106,000 on turnover of £10.1 million in the year to June 26 1987.

Ash & Lacy purchase

Ash & Lacy, the metal cladding manufacturer and galvanizer, has bought the Albion Galvanising Company of Oldbury, West Midlands, for £950,000, with another £100,000 payable depending on the next two years' profits. Albion carries out similar work to Ash & Lacy's Joseph Ash & Son subsidiary, which now operates from eight sites around the country.

Albert Martin buy

Albert Martin Holdings, the clothing manufacturer, is buying the privately-owned Burnham Group of Nottingham, which supplies blouses and lingerie to Marks and Spencer, for just less than £1 million. Burnham has a turnover of about £7 million a year.

An initial payment for the ordinary Burnham shares of £325,000 will be satisfied by the issue of 300,000 new Albert Martin shares to the vendors. The rest of the equity is in the form of £658,000 worth of loan stock redeemable over the five years to 1993. Albert Martin has agreed to buy out the stock as payment becomes due in its own shares at the then market price.

Trafalgar sailing back to growth

The QE2 is back again, chugging across the oceans at full speed. Landlubbers are putting down roots in group properties at home; and Trafalgar House is feeling fairly cheerful with its performance in the six months ended March. It does so with every justification.

Pretax profits at £85.3 million against £54.1 million were well up to market expectations, and despite the pace of acquisitions, the advance was largely achieved through genuine organic growth.

After slipping in the past two full financial years, the all-important net earnings a share figure has shown a respectable advance, on the back of which there is a 10.8 per cent dividend increase, and real earnings per share growth looks assured for 1988.

Analysts have upgraded their year-end profit forecasts, and although gearing has marched from zero to 30 per cent, the group remains well funded for what looks like a busy six to 18 months ahead.

Construction was strong, with residential activities in Britain turning in a particularly good first half, and what sluggishness there was within houses because of the American and the dollar factor was more than made up by a return to the high seas of the QE2 flagship. Engineering was

soft, and oil and gas interests were only modestly higher.

However, there is now a stronger mood of confidence running through Trafalgar and what hesitation there was six months ago because of Black Monday seems largely to have disappeared.

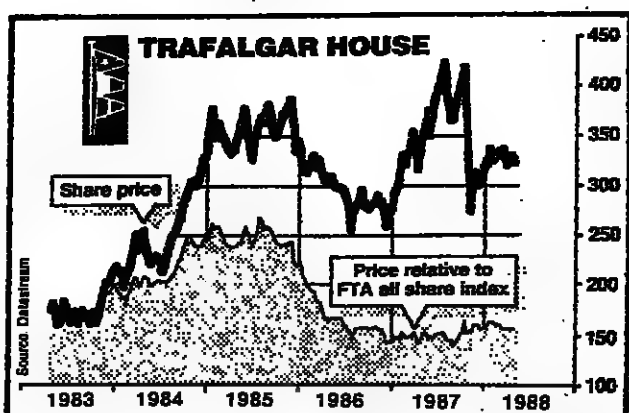
A series of large contracts has been won by the construction companies to put an overall £1.5 billion tag on the order book, with a hoped-for improvement in margins in the offing. And further deals in American building/property sector may not be far off.

On projected pretax profits of £223 million, up from earlier estimates of £217 million and compared with an actual £163.2 million, Trafalgar, at 326p, offers a prospective yield of 6.5 per cent and an earnings ratio of 9.2 — or a 17.5 per cent discount to the market.

The share looks underpriced.

Royal Bank of Scotland

Another set of healthy banking figures from Scotland. The Royal Bank of Scotland's interim profit growth of 20.3 per cent stands comparison with the impressive perfor-



mance by Bank of Scotland. The Royal Bank has been working at increasing assets, achieving a 19 per cent rise over the six-month period spread across the retail and commercial sectors. It claims to have managed a small rise in lending margins by pulling away from big corporate lending, and concentrating on the middle market.

This has contributed to the 40 per cent profit growth of the clearing bank, after exceptional gains such as property sales and pension fund holidays are taken into account. Other areas have also performed well. Charterhouse continues to go from strength to strength in the corporate finance and development cap-

ital fields, and seems to have survived the stock market crash with minor injuries.

At the same time, the Royal Bank seems to have conquered — at least for the time being — the lumpy bad debts in oil and shipping which dogged its results in previous years. The bank therefore manages to be healthily provisioned while maintaining ample capital ratios, even after its purchase of Citizens Financial Group in the US.

The only serious drag on the results is the substantial increase in costs, partly the result of taking on all of AT Mays' staff and, no doubt, some largish bills related to the Citizens purchase. It is a little soon to say whether the

rise in the cost ratios is a "one-off" event, or a permanent feature.

The message of the results, though, is that the Royal Bank deserves rather better than the stock market is currently giving it. With a performance well ahead of most other British clearing banks, its p/e ratio remains unfairly average. With likely profits of around £300 million for the year a prospective p/e of 5.2 seems niggardly.

Davy Corp

Losing £25 million on a £100-million contract is not impressive, even if the circumstances which conspired against accident-prone Davy Corporation are reasonably understandable.

Even so, perhaps the company was overconfident, having successfully built 38 other Wellman-Lord flue gas desulfurization plants, in adapting this one from coal to lignite or brown coal without conclusively establishing the problems which might arise.

Admittedly results from Davy's initial tests into the effects of higher temperature levels were misleading, allowing construction to proceed before discovering plant modifications were necessary.

But the episode does not help to build up confidence in the company. Moreover, it now appears the 1986-87 figures included a £7.4 million provision for cost overruns on the same contract. Thus Davy's problems are not just technical but also suggest a lack of managerial control.

The remaining £17.5 million to be written off against the 1987-88 figures is said to be adequate. While further undisclosed monies have been provided for modifying another plant also treating brown coal flue gas.

A brave face is being put on the episode, with Davy claiming that it has provided good experience for the future. But there must be cheaper ways. Looking ahead, the overall order book is 30 per cent ahead with the value-added element which Davy pays particular attention to, up by 12 per cent.

Results for the year just ended, to be reported in July, are unlikely to top £10 million with anything between £20 million and £30 million possible for the following year.

Despite the modest p/e ratio, the shares remain attractive only for their 7 per cent yield. There are other companies on a similar rating with better quality earnings.

UK takeover total doubled in Europe

By Colin Narborough

Latest figures on the takeover activities of British companies abroad help to refute criticism that acquirers are neglecting Europe in the run-up to the 1992 Single Market.

In the January to April period, British firms made 62 takeovers — almost double the number in the same period last year — in Continental Europe, data compiled by *Acquisitions Monthly* shows.

In value terms, acquisitions on the Continent almost quadrupled to £640 million. For the whole of last year, the number of companies acquired in Europe was 134, at a cost of £1.25 billion.

France tops the target countries, accounting for the three

biggest acquisitions by British firms this year — CAP's bid for Sema-Metra, WCRS Group's for SGCM, and Coates Brothers' bid for Lorilleux.

The United States is prime hunting ground for British predators. In the first four months, British companies made 124 acquisitions in the US — up 50 on the same period last year.

In value terms, there was less change: £2.68 billion (£1.43 billion) as opposed to £2.84 billion previously.

Unresolved mega-bids, such as BAT's bid for Farmers and Beazers' offer for Koppers — if successful — are likely to make 1988 a record year for US acquisitions.

Equipment deal for Blackwood

Blackwood Hodge, the construction equipment distributor, has bought the property and equipment of Ferguson Supply, a Canadian earthmoving machinery dealership, from Kendavis Holding Company of the US, for about Can\$10 million (£4.5 million).

Ferguson supplies a range of earthmoving, construction and related equipment, with an annual turnover of about Can\$33 million.

The British company will succeed Ferguson as distributor for Terex and Champion.

Newarthill qualified

The 1986-87 accounts of Newarthill, the construction and property group which trades under the name Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, were qualified by Touche Ross, the company's auditors.

According to Touche Ross, Newarthill had not complied with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No 19 by including property investment interests in its accounts at an historical cost of £27.5 million — after charging depreciation — rather than revaluing them.

Apart from this, Touche Ross said the accounts give a true and fair view of the company's affairs.

Royal denies French stake

Royal Insurance, Britain's largest composite insurer, has dismissed as press speculation reports in the French business newspaper *Tribune de l'Expansion* that Compagnie Financière du Groupe Victoire, a French insurance group, would be taking a large minority stake in Royal.

The report in *Tribune de l'Expansion* business daily said a series of cross link-ups between Royal and Victoire would soon be announced.

CPI Holdings tops £1m

CPI Holdings, Ireland's biggest builder merchant and do-it-yourself group, more than doubled pretax profits in 1987, from Ir£557,000 to Ir£1.27 million (£1.08 million). Earnings per share are up from 2.1p to 7.4p.

Mushrooming Booker

Booker, the agribusiness, health products and food conglomerate, has agreed to pay £4 million cash for Country Kitchen Foods — claimed to be Britain's largest mushroom grower — to HJ Heinz.

\$1m savings for Guinness

Guinness, the drinks group, has entered into three contracts with North European Atlantic Conference, Dart Line and Maersk Line to ship its spirits and beer products to North America.

The move will initially produce direct savings of about \$1 million (£334,045).

Payout at Cronite

The Cronite Group, the nickel processor and casting maker, has returned to the dividend list after a five-year absence with a 1p interim payment, on reporting pretax profits for the six months to end-March of £633,000, up from £264,000 last time.

US plans for equity moneybroking

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Four US securities houses are among six firms which are to apply to become equity-only moneybrokers, following this week's announcement of the Stock Exchange Council decision to enlarge existing equity borrowing and lending facilities.

The council decision, which was taken at the end of April after a six-month examination which began before the stock market crash on October 19, will allow member firms to act as moneybrokers, borrowing and lending in equity securities only.

The demand by market-

makers and others for additional scope to borrow and lend equities came during last summer's boom in equity turnover.

At that time, the Bank of England set an informal limit on the nine existing Stock Exchange moneybrokers — Sheppards, Hoare Govett, James Capel, King & Shaxson, Lazard, LM, Prudential-Bache, Warburg and Cazenove — which was that no more than a quarter of their moneybroking business should be related to equities, with the rest in gilts.

The new equity-only moneybrokers will be required to produce proof of demand for their services from a number of market-makers, and a maximum of 25 per cent of their equity lending will be permitted to their parent firms.

Mr Peter Wells, the head of the Stock Exchange moneybroking operation at Sheppards, said that existing moneybrokers were not opposed to the opening-up of the market to new entrants.

But, he added, after a "bonanza" last year, the slump in equity turnover since October 19 had reduced demand and profitability of equity moneybroking.

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Fads defence claims Ward White lacks expertise

By Cliff Feltham

AG Stanley, the Fads, Decor 8 and Home Charm paints and wallpaper chain, yesterday attacked the hostile £100 million takeover bid from Ward White. It said: "Our market is capable of being ruined by those who don't understand it."

The company, in a hard-hitting defence document, says Ward White, which owns the Payless and Halfords chains, does not have the expertise to run Stanley properly.

"Ward White has had a series of failures in UK high street retailing. The way that the Focus Shoes and Zodiac Toys chains were acquired

and subsequently sold off clearly demonstrates this."

Mr Roger Regan, the Stanley managing director, says the company has not made a profit forecast because it is a totally different business to what it was 12 months ago after buying the Decor 8 and Home Charm chains.

The board controls 18.9 per cent of the company and says it will not accept the Ward White bid. However, the outcome is likely to be decided by Williams Holdings, which is sitting on a 25.7 per cent stake and has so far given no indication of whether it intends to support Ward White or the management.

"Williams have said they

would prefer not to decide the outcome of the bid," said Mr Regan. "We do not know which way they will go."

In its defence document, the Stanley board says the company, with its 509 retail outlets supported by wallcoverings and paint manufacturing, is a unique retail group. "This chain could not, without extreme difficulty, be assembled by anyone else trying to enter this market."

"The Fads, Decor 8 and Home Charm chains have only been combined since February 1988. The enormous benefits of combination are, unsurprisingly, for the future," it points out.

Stanley also hit back at

Ward White claims that it sold too many low margin products that would be better sold out of town.

It says: "The only low margin products we sell are certain brand leader paints stocked as a customer service. Should we ask our customers buying high margin wallcoverings to travel out of town to buy brand leader paint?"

Stanley is also considering expansion. "Having assembled our three chains, we have identified over 300 suitable locations in which we are still not represented."

Stanley shares closed unchanged at 307p yesterday, compared with the 253p value of the cash alternative proposed by Ward White.

Davy in warning of profit setback

By Alexandra Jackson

Davy Corporation, Britain's largest process engineering group, yesterday gave warning that pretax profits for the year to end-March 1988 would be hit by a £17.5 million provision on a £100 million West German Buschhaus gas desulphurization plant.

It was also revealed that 1986-87 pretax profits of £20.2 million had been struck after deducting a £7.4 million provision to cover cost overruns on the same contract.

The problems have arisen because the plant is the first built by Davy to operate on flue gas from brown coal or lignite. The group has, however, built 38 other desulphurization plants using the same Wellman-Lord design. It is working on another brown coal plant at Rummelsburg, in East Germany, and has made provision against 1987-88 trading results to cover any potential modifications.

Lignite has a high sulphur and moisture content which creates higher temperature flue gas. This in turn leads to a significantly higher formation of sulphate which has prevented the Buschhaus plant from operating at full capacity.

It was initially commissioned in June last year but problems were identified last October. It will be recommissioned in November.

Experts, both inside and outside Davy have developed modifications which are expected to solve the problem.

The client, Braunschweigische Kohlenbergwerke, has agreed to bear some of the additional cost of adapting the plant, which, although considerable, is not thought to involve as much money as Davy has provided.

At the beginning of the financial year, City analysts had expected Davy to report pretax profits for 1987-88 of about £27 million, but worries about this contract led to modest downgrades at the turn of the year.

However, the eventual provision was considerably higher than had been expected and forecasts are now down as low as £10 million.

The shares gained 5p yesterday to 138p, helped by a positive statement on prospects and a pledge to maintain the dividend at 6.25p for the year, despite the profits downgrade. They have been poor performers over the past year, however, lagging the market by 18 per cent.

Times, page 24

COMMENT David Brewerton Bitter irony of UK's bid for leadership

All experience of competition policy dictates that if Cadbury mounted a bid for Rowntree, saving it from either a rape by Nestlé or the clammy embrace of Stettin, the idea would not go beyond first post. The plan would be paraded before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission faster than you could say Black Magic.

That would leave the field free to Rowntree's ardent suitors, unless their plans, too, were flung into limbo by an investigation. That seems unlikely, although after the extraordinarily tardy decision of Lord Young to ask for an investigation of the Kuwait Investment Office shareholding in BP (of which more below), it is distinctly possible.

Sir Adrian Cadbury chose the annual meeting of his own company to ask for answers to two questions about the current merger mania. His were not the comments of a disinterested outsider but of a company chairman faced with a growing menace of a potentially hostile shareholder, General Cinema.

The first concerned reciprocity, and whether companies which are bid-proof in their own countries should be allowed to shop at random in Britain. It is tempting to argue for reciprocity, but it is a short circuit for a country such as Britain which has to earn its corn from trade. Against that, as Sir Adrian pointed out, if British companies which sell themselves up to be a force in Europe are to be picked off, one by one, by bid-proof companies outside the Common Market, "then what business leadership will Britain be giving to the new Europe?" Precious little, Sir Adrian.

Sir Adrian's other point deserves close and urgent attention from Lord Young, who has set his cap at positioning Britain as a force in the barrier-free

marketplace. In the run-up to 1992, is competition policy to be decided by reference to domestic markets or across Europe? If the answer is to be the latter, which is the only reasonable one, then the emphasis on which bids go to the Monopolies Commission, and which do not, should be pointed in that direction. At present, the emphasis is on the home market where, for instance, a Cadbury Rowntree Schweppes plc would control more than 50 per cent of the domestic sweetie market.

They have, as Sir Adrian pointed out, earned their place in the market by careful investment and nurturing of brands, and the ultimate ownership of the rights to Smarties and Milk Tray is a matter of national interest.

Biting bullets is less attractive than biting chocolate bars, but Sir Adrian is right to ask for swift decisions before they become irrelevant.

Referral worries

Any indication that the Government was prepared to block foreign investment in British companies would misfire given the high profile bids being conducted by British companies abroad. So the Monopolies Commission examination of the implications of the 22 per cent stake in British Petroleum held by the Kuwait Investment Office is specific to the role of the Kuwaiti Government.

If the Kuwait Investment Office submits to the inquiry, its reward may be that it has to divest part of its holding, which would drive down the BP price. The bigger worry is that it will decide to pull out and sell its shares to a predator such as Exxon.

Takeshita's new deal

Japan has become the good boy of the world economy. It is fulfilling its obligations under the summit co-operation agreements by raising growth to 4.2 per cent in 1987 through increased domestic spending and low interest rates even though its notorious export surplus is coming down quite sharply because of the yen's appreciation. It is even raising its Third World aid when others are cutting back. But all this counts for little in the eyes of Europeans and Americans, who are obsessed only with trade disputes, some real (like spirit taxes) but others (like the Kansai airport question) increasingly artificial.

If he did not realize this before he arrived in Rome for his European tour, Noboru Takeshita, the new prime minister, will be fully aware of it by now. He chose a lunch at Mansion House yesterday for an important speech launching Japan's "International Co-operation Initiative", a long-term plan to play a greater part in the international commu-

nity. The British were more interested in further changes to spirit taxes which discriminate against Scotch and brandy and about how many more City securities firms are to be allowed into the Tokyo Stock Exchange. And Mr Takeshita will find the British the most friendly European nation. (It must have been something of a relief that the presidential elections ruled out a trip to France).

As Mrs Thatcher noted, these trade irritants are unfinished business, no longer the substance of what Britain and Japan have to say to each other. Britain should focus more on the benefits of responding to Mr Takeshita's desire for closer links between Europe and Japan instead of each relying on bilateral links with the US. To start with, Japan is the best available ally on currency stabilization. Mr Takeshita could also help Britain resist the protectionist trend in the European Community, which looks likely to worsen after 1992.

UES at £36.7m in first full year

By Derek Harris

United Engineering Steels (UES), one of the Phoenix joint venture companies set up involving both the public and private steel sectors, has made pretax profits of £36.7 million on £577 million sales in its first full year of operations.

UES, which is based at Rotherham, South Yorkshire, has established itself in 21 months as the largest producer of engineering grade steels in Europe. Mr Ian Donald, the UES chairman, described the 1987 results as "encouraging". But he added: "More remains to be done to improve significantly the return on assets."

The company, which is owned 60 per cent by British Steel Corporation and 40 per cent by the GKN engineering group, is Britain's second largest steel maker, producing more than 2 million tonnes of liquid steel during 1987. Productivity was up 15 per cent on the year before, with sales value per employee in engineering and forging more than 19 per cent ahead.

Profits had benefited from increased demand for engineering steels and forgings together with favourable raw material prices and initially favourable exchange rates, said Mr John Pennington, the chief executive.

Since then, electricity prices have increased, there are worries over raw material costs and currency changes are making it tougher for exports which account for 30 per cent of production.

However, the company expects to draw increasing benefits from its investment in the latest technologies. In August it plans to bring on stream a £75 million bloom caster at Rotherham.

This will raise UES's capability for the latest cost-cutting continuous casting to up to 85 per cent of total production and is part of a four-year £164 million investment programme.

UES also reported an encouraging sales start to 1988 and Mr Pennington expects tonnage to reach the 1987 level. A main factor being strong automotive demand.

Thomson appointed to IoD post



Sir Adam Thomson (above), the chairman of British Caledonian Airways until it was taken over by British Airways, has been appointed dep-

uty chairman of the Institute of Directors. He has already formed a new company, Gold Stag, since leaving BCal. Sir Adam, aged 61, said one

of the main challenges facing Britain in the 1990s, and in which the IoD would play an important part, was the opportunity Europe would offer.

Maxwell confirms interest in buying Crown Suppliers

By Colin Narkborough

Hollis, the acquisitive engineering-to-services division of Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon group, yesterday said it had submitted proposals to the Government about the Crown Suppliers, and was confident of making an "attractive" offer, providing details of the Whitehall furniture-maker's business were made available.

This formal confirmation of its interest in the Crown Suppliers, coincided with a high-profile product launch by the Government trading fund for furniture and fire safety

equipment, for which privatization plans were announced in February.

The Crown Suppliers' Contract range is expected to earn £14 million to £15 million over the next four to five years, helping to sustain its 20 per cent share of the furniture market.

Its wooden and metal furniture sales accounted for £72 million of £241 million total sales in the 1986-87 financial year. The Government requires it to give a 5 per cent return on capital employed.

The Contract range incor-

porates an innovative form of cable management, with free-standing cable ducts that marry with the back of desks, giving greater flexibility and more space for electronic equipment.

The Government has freed Whitehall departments and other official customers from any obligation to purchase from the Crown Suppliers, forcing it to compete for its market share.

Other known contenders for the Crown Suppliers, which is expected to carry a price tag of about £100 million, include Hillsdown Holdings

Earl to lead demerged Tranwood

By Alison Eadie

Tranwood Group, the financial services and hosiery group run by Mr Nick Oppenheim, is proposing to demerge itself.

The financial services division - which consists of the mini-merchant bank, Inncorp Earl, Ariel (UK), the agency stockbroker and Blackwood Financial Communications, a financial marketing consultancy - will take the Tranwood name and apply for a listing on the USM.

Mr Peter Earl, the founder of Inncorp Earl and the great proponent of demerger, will become chief executive of the new Tranwood group.

Mr Earl first advocated his demerger ideas when advising in a bid for Ertel, the publishing and information group. He then repeated it in a bid for London & Northern, the construction and engineering group and most recently dur-

ing Bealor's bid for Storehouse, the retail group.

All three bids were unsuccessful.

The hosiery division will keep the full listing under the new name of Bear Brand.

Shareholders will retain their existing shares and receive new shares in the new Tranwood, in proportion to their shareholding.

Bankers in rude wealth

New Yorkers' reputation for rudeness may be undeserved, but National Westminster Bank is taking no chances. Its 135-branch network in the New York City area is offering customers, would-be borrowers and depositors \$5 (£2.60) compensation if cashiers are rude, or \$50 if the bank fails to respond to a request for a personal or car loan within 24 hours. If existing customers have any other service complaints, maintenance charges on cheque accounts will be refunded. The counts will be refunded. The "money for foul-up" policy is part of a campaign to promote the bank's services. So far Nat West has coughed up \$50 to a man whose request for a car loan was not dealt with in the allotted time because of a discrepancy over a telephone number. A few payments have also been made for rudeness, says Frank Scaramella of NatWest US's marketing department. But no compensation, I am afraid, for time spent waiting in a queue in the bank. We keenly await news of when the bank's home-grown customers also start getting kickbacks in the I am sure unlikely event of sluggish service from their local NatWest.

Fawning

National Secretaries Week in America has thrown up some unusual presents. A big seller has been a bouquet offered by Washington society florist Birds, named after the most joyful secretary even JR Ewing could hope for. Birds star

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Crossing the channels

Robert Maxwell has been at it again. At a cosy telly get-together in Cannes on Sunday, the outspoken media baron called on Europe to protect itself from the import of US television programming. "If my American friends don't like this," Maxwell said, "then they had better lump it." But no sooner had the fearless

pioneer sat down than TF1, the French television channel of which Maxwell owns 12.5 per cent, began showing *Von Ryan's Express*. Earlier in the day TF1 decided that what French culture values (and was *Tarzan* and *Star Trek* and *Hitch*. After *Von Ryan's Express* came *Hart to Hart*. Oh well, tant pis.

Star gazer

Donald Regan, the former White House chief of staff, does not disclose whether, like his friend Nancy Reagan, his colleague Michael Clark relies on astrology to foretell the future. In his new book, Regan reveals that Nancy consults astrologers for guidance about Ronald's speeches. But he makes no mention of Clark's muse. Clark's latest coup was predicting in his April 20 stock market column in *The Times* that industrial conglomerate Thomas Robinson was preparing to bid for John Crowther, a textiles company which was then already the target of an agreed £215 million offer from Coloroll, the wall coverings and soft furnishings group headed by John Ashcroft. Yesterday Robinson unveiled its £245 million bid, lifting Crowther's shares by another 6p to 189p. If it is any help to anyone, Clark's star sign is Aries.



"That's why my fund manager conveniently loses his voice from time to time..."

Power to the people

I wonder whether, as he and Margaret Thatcher sipped Glenlivet into the wee small hours of the morning, Noboru Takeshita serenaded his hostess with a few bars of *Life is a Stage*, his favourite song. The Japanese prime minister, currently visiting Britain, apparently likes the song's opening phrase: "I'll persist until I achieve my aim." Such mottoes are quite common in Japan, and probably explain why they are so successful at making kangaroos out of folded up newspapers. At a recent seminar in Tokyo to launch *Nikkei Women*, a new journal, leading Japanese businessmen were asked for their mottoes for success. The first setback for us Brits is that not many of us have a motto for success. The second is that it would take us a while to dream up any to match those that are doing the rounds in Japan. One Tokyo businessman boasted the motto: "Dreams and challenges. A spirit of adventure is worth much more than a bottle of cosmetics." I bet they say the very same thing at Harvard Business School.

● Save & Prosper's chairman Choinéy Messer, who sits on the advertising and disciplinary committees of Lauro, the new self-regulatory body for the life assurance industry, failed S&P's compliance exam when he sat it with all the rookie S&P salesmen recently. "I was too damn clever," he complains, just like millions of students before him.

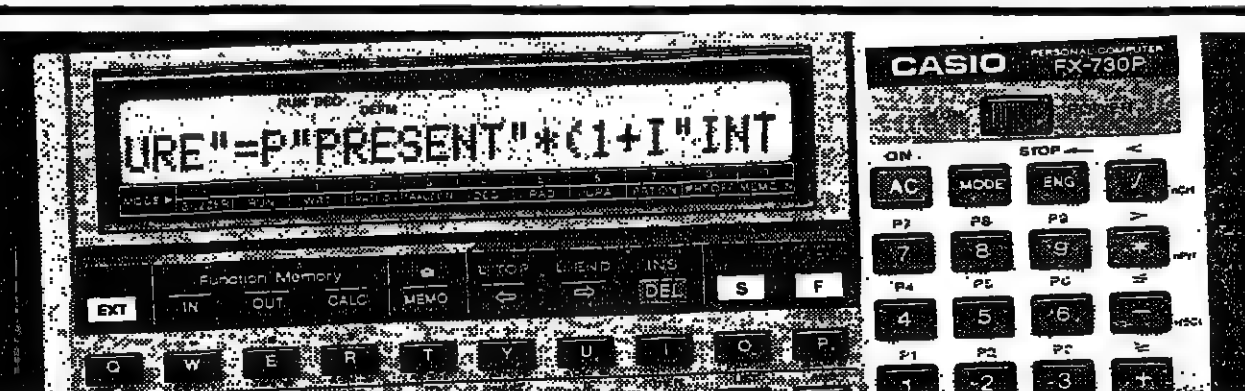
Joe Joseph

RUN DEG DEFN

$$F=P*(1+I/100)^N$$

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
WRT	TRACE ON	TRACE OFF	DEG	RAD	GRA	PRON

Basic Problem?



Simple Solution

Even the sharpest business brains can come unstuck when it comes to working out lengthy market research formulae and compound interest calculations. Now Casio have changed all that with their range of pocket computers.

Complex business problems can be solved quickly and accurately, literally at the touch of a button. You don't even need to speak "computer language" because the Casio FX730P is as easy to use as a calculator.

Using the Formulae Function Memory, complex operations can be carried out using straightforward instructions. For example, the Compound Interest calculation shown above can be entered in either mathematical variables or in easily understood words:

F "FUTURE VALUE" = P "PRESENT VALUE" * (1 + I "INTEREST" / 100) ^ Y "YEARS"

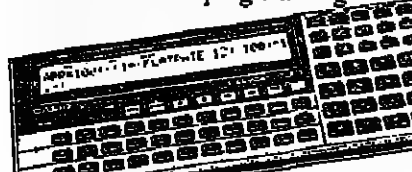
Used together with the Data Bank facility several such complex formulae can be stored ready for instant retrieval.

But don't be deceived by the simplicity of these machines, they are very powerful business tools. Casio has also combined technical capacity and user-friendliness. For example the FX730P has 69 scientific functions covering a vast range of specialist applications. And the FX850P, featuring enhanced BASIC programming

plus a built in library of 116 formulae, is a match for many full-sized PC's. Its standard memory can be expanded to a massive 40K.

Once again, Casio has devised a winning formula for businessmen. These pocket computers are powerful problem-solvers. In anyone's language.

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in Ex (allotted), in Com (allotted), in Com
stock split, in Ex stock split, in Com
(any two or more of above), in Ex all (any
two or more of above). Dealing
valuation days: (1) Monday, (2) Tuesday,
(3) Wednesday, (4) Thursday, (5) Friday.

LONDON FOX		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE			
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By 910-912	Oct 917-917	Oct 932-925	Copper Standard	11255-11325	10900-10920
By 910-912	Dec 917-917	Dec 932-925	Chipman	11255-11325	10900-10920
By 910-912	May 1025-1025	Q W Johnson	Zinc	910-910	895-895
By 910-912	Jul 1116-1116	Jul 1116-1116	Zinc Chip	900-900	885-885
By 910-912	Oct 1140-1130	Oct 1140-1130	Aluminum	635-635	620-620
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Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603	602	601	600	599	598	597	596	595	594	593	592	591	590	589	588	587	586	585	584	583	582	581	580	579	578	577	576	575	574	573	572	571	570	569	568	567	566	565	564	563
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[illegible]

PROPERTY									
121	88	Almaden Lakes	115	120	-2	3.8	32	15.8	
209	133	Arroyo Viejo	201	205	5.5	9.7	14.7		
175	108	Asolo	151	76	● + 1	14	0.9	45.6	
128	23	B&B Group	112	115	● ● ●	17	1.5	24.5	
240	210	Baker Farms	223	242	● ● ●	8.6	2.1	17.4	
260	333	Baker (P)	265	326	● ● ●	19.2	4.8	17.7	
260	365	Barnard	270	324	● ● ●	15.8	4.3	20.0	
261	313	Bay Land	262	311	● ● ●	8.1	2.3	19.0	

209	218	227	236	245	254	263	272	281	290	299	308	317	326	335	344	353	362	371	380	389	398	407	416	425	434	443	452	461	470	479	488	497	506	515	524	533	542	551	560	569	578	587	596	605	614	623	632	641	650	659	668	677	686	695	704	713	722	731	740	749	758	767	776	785	794	803	812	821	830	839	848	857	866	875	884	893	902	911	920	929	938	947	956	965	974	983	992	1001	1010	1019	1028	1037	1046	1055	1064	1073	1082	1091	1100	1109	1118	1127	1136	1145	1154	1163	1172	1181	1190	1199	1208	1217	1226	1235	1244	1253	1262	1271	1280	1289	1298	1307	1316	1325	1334	1343	1352	1361	1370	1379	1388	1397	1406	1415	1424	1433	1442	1451	1460	1469	1478	1487	1496	1505	1514	1523	1532	1541	1550	1559	1568	1577	1586	1595	1604	1613	1622	1631	1640	1649	1658	1667	1676	1685	1694	1703	1712	1721	1730	1739	1748	1757	1766	1775	1784	1793	1802	1811	1820	1829	1838	1847	1856	1865	1874	1883	1892	1901	1910	1919	1928	1937	1946	1955	1964	1973	1982	1991	2000	2009	2018	2027	2036	2045	2054	2063	2072	2081	2090	2099	2108	2117	2126	2135	2144	2153	2162	2171	2180	2189	2198	2207	2216	2225	2234	2243	2252	2261	2270	2279	2288	2297	2306	2315	2324	2333	2342	2351	2360	2369	2378	2387	2396	2405	2414	2423	2432	2441	2450	2459	2468	2477	2486	2495	2504	2513	2522	2531	2540	2549	2558	2567	2576	2585	2594	2603	2612	2621	2630	2639	2648	2657	2666	2675	2684	2693	2702	2711	2720	2729	2738	2747	2756	2765	2774	2783	2792	2801	2810	2819	2828	2837	2846	2855	2864	2873	2882	2891	2900	2909	2918	2927	2936	2945	2954	2963	2972	2981	2990	2999	3008	3017	3026	3035	3044	3053	3062	3071	3080	3089	3098	3107	3116	3125	3134	3143	3152	3161	3170	3179	3188	3197	3206	3215	3224	3233	3242	3251	3260	3269	3278	3287	3296	3305	3314	3323	3332	3341	3350	3359	3368	3377	3386	3395	3404	3413	3422	3431	3440	3449	3458	3467	3476	3485	3494	3503	3512	3521	3530	3539	3548	3557	3566	3575	3584	3593	3602	3611	3620	3629	3638	3647	3656	3665	3674	3683	3692	3701	3710	3719	3728	3737	3746	3755	3764	3773	3782	3791	3800	3809	3818	3827	3836	3845	3854	3863	3872	3881	3890	3899	3908	3917	3926	3935	3944	3953	3962	3971	3980	3989	3998	4007	4016	4025	4034	4043	4052	4061	4070	4079	4088	4097	4106	4115	4124	4133	4142	4151	4160	4169	4178	4187	4196	4205	4214	4223	4232	4241	4250	4259	4268	4277	4286	4295	4304	4313	4322	4331	4340	4349	4358	4367	4376	4385	4394	4403	4412	4421	4430	4439	4448	4457	4466	4475	4484	4493	4502	4511	4520	4529	4538	4547	4556	4565	4574	4583	4592	4601	4610	4619	4628	4637	4646	4655	4664	4673	4682	4691	4700	4709	4718	4727	4736	4745	4754	4763	4772	4781	4790	4799	4808	4817	4826	4835	4844	4853	4862	4871	4880	4889	4898	4907	4916	4925	4934	4943	4952	4961	4970	4979	4988	4997	5006	5015	5024	5033	5042	5051	5060	5069	5078	5087	5096	5105	5114	5123	5132	5141	5150	5159	5168	5177	5186	5195	5204	5213	5222	5231	5240	5249	5258	5267	5276	5285	5294	5303	5312	5321	5330	5339	5348	5357	5366	5375	5384	5393	5402	5411	5420	5429	5438	5447	5456	5465	5474	5483	5492	5501	5510	5519	5528	5537	5546	5555	5564	5573	5582	5591	5600	5609	5618	5627	5636	5645	5654	5663	5672	5681	5690	5699	5708	5717	5726	5735	5744	5753	5762	5771	5780	5789	5798	5807	5816	5825	5834	5843	5852	5861	5870	5879	5888	5897	5906	5915	5924	5933	5942	5951	5960	5969	5978	5987	5996	6005	6014	6023	6032	6041	6050	6059	6068	6077	6086	6095	6104	6113	6122	6131	6140	6149	6158	6167	6176	6185	6194	6203	6212	6221	6230	6239	6248	6257	6266	6275	6284	6293	6302	6311	6320	6329	6338	6347	6356	6365	6374	6383	6392	6401	6410	6419	6428	6437	6446	6455	6464	6473	6482	6491	6500	6509	6518	6527	6536	6545	6554	6563	6572	6581	6590	6599	6608	6617	6626	6635	6644	6653	6662	6671	6680	6689	6698	6707	6716	6725	6734	6743	6752	6761	6770	6779	6788	6797	6806	6815	6824	6833	6842	6851	6860	6869	6878	6887	6896	6905	6914	6923	6932	6941	6950	6959	6968	6977	6986	6995	7004	7013	7022	7031	7040	7049	7058	7067	7076	7085	7094	7103	7112	7121	7130	7139	7148	7157	7166	7175	7184	7193	7202	7211	7220	7229	7238	7247	7256	7265	7274	7283	7292	7301	7310	7319	7328	7337	7346	7355	7364	7373	7382	7391	7400	7409	7418	7427	7436	7445	7454	7463	7472	7481	7490	7499	7508	7517	7526	7535	7544	7553	7562	7571	7580	7589	7598	7607	7616	7625	7634	7643	7652	7661	7670	7679	7688	7697	7706	7715	7724	7733	7742	7751	7760	7769	7778	7787	7796	7805	7814	7823	7832	7841	7850	7859	7868	7877	7886	7895	7904	7913	7922	7931	7940	7949	7958	7967	7976	7985	7994	8003	8012	8021	8030	8039	8048	8057	8066	8075	8084	8093	8102	8111	8120	8129	8138	8147	8156	8165	8174	8183	8192	8201	8210	8219	8228	8237	8246	8255	8264	8273	8282	8291	8300	8309	8318	8327	8336	8345	8354	8363	8372	8381	8390	8399	8408	8417	8426	8435	8444	8453	8462	8471	8480	8489	8498	8507	8516	8525	8534	8543	8552	8561	8570	8579	8588	8597	8606	8615	8624	8633	8642	8651	8660	8669	8678	8687	8696	8705	8714	8723	8732	8741	8750	8759	8768	8777	8786	8795	8804	8813	8822	8831	8840	8849	8858	8867	8876	8885	8894	8903	8912	8921	8930	8939	8948	8957	8966	8975	8984	8993	9002	9011	9020	9029	9038	9047	9056	9065	9074	9083	9092	9101	9110	9119	9128	9137	9146	9155	9164	9173	9182	9191	9200	9209	9218	9227	9236	9245	9254	9263	9272	9281	9290	9299	9308	9317	9326	9335	9344	9353	936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SHIPPING									
575	400	UK Land	580	540	●-40	6.9	1.1	24.7	
576	401	UK Sea	581	541	●-40	6.9	1.1	24.7	
575	255	USA	580	540	●-40	6.9	1.1	24.7	
576	256	USA	581	541	●-40	6.9	1.1	24.7	
138	138	Holland	138	138	●-0	20.3	2.9	36.3	
139	139	Holland	138	138	●-0	20.3	2.9	36.3	
139	139	Holland	138	138	●-0	20.3	2.9	36.3	
60	67	Western Japan	46	50	●+4	0.8	1.8	1.8	
158	125	East & Country	180	175	●-5	2.1	1.5	9.9	

573	475	Turnout	Scott	550	700	..	15.1	27	59.8
573	475	Turnout	Scott	550	700	..	15.1	27	59.8

SHOES, LEATHER									
190	65	Hudson's	Sims	73	85	..	0.7e	0.8	..
190	65	Hudson's	Sims	73	85	..	0.7e	0.8	..
210	95	Lauriat	Hawthorn	186	196	..	11.6	66	11.0
210	95	Lauriat	Hawthorn	186	196	..	11.6	66	11.0
266	268	Shoers & Fash	..	237	242	..	16.7	81	66
266	268	Shoers & Fash	..	237	242	..	16.7	81	66
300	330	Style	..	280	276	..	6.3	2.6	47.3
300	330	Style	..	280	276	..	6.3	2.6	47.3

TEXTILES									
270	300	Alind Text	..	227	227	-2	12.6	3.6	16.6
270	300	Alind Text	..	227	227	-2	12.6	3.6	16.6
278	276	Levin (Joan)	..	212	212	..	7.7	3.3	7.9
278	276	Levin (Joan)	..	212	212	..	7.7	3.3	7.9
103	103	Lection (A)	..	47	45	..	7.9	6.8	19.5
103	103	Lection (A)	..	47	45	..	7.9	6.8	19.5
200	180	Levin	..	193	196	+1	10.3	3.2	8.5
200	180	Levin	..	193	196	+1	10.3	3.2	8.5
103	103	Levin	..	193	196	+1	10.3	3.2	8.5
103	103	Levin	..	193	196	+1	10.3	3.2	8.5

394	Overstade (L)	375	375	-4	12.5	36	98
395	Overstade (R)	375	375	-4	12.5	36	98
130	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	105
131	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
132	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
133	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
134	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
135	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
136	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
137	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
138	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
139	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
140	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
141	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
142	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
143	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
144	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
145	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
146	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
147	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
148	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
149	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
150	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
151	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
152	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
153	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
154	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
155	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
156	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
157	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
158	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
159	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
160	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
161	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
162	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
163	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
164	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
165	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
166	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
167	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
168	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
169	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
170	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
171	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
172	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
173	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
174	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
175	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
176	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
177	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
178	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
179	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
180	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
181	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
182	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
183	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
184	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
185	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
186	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
187	Parsons (R)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106
188	Parsons (L)	288	288	0	9.9	47	106

[illegible]

Procedure for discharging orders granted to one side

Dormeuil Freres SA and Another v Nicolian International (Textiles) Ltd
Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor
[Judgment April 22]

It was not the correct procedure to apply to discharge an *ex parte* injunction, or an *Anton Piller* order, authorizing the search of premises and seizure of goods or documents found therein, or a *Mareva* order, preventing the disposal of assets within the jurisdiction, at an interlocutory hearing.

Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division on a motion by the plaintiffs, Dormeuil Freres SA and Another, to discharge an *Anton Piller* order made by Mr Justice Hoffmann on February 26, 1988 under which goods in the plaintiffs' premises were seized and taken into the custody of Dormeuil's solicitors.

Mr Peter Leaver, QC and Mr Richard Miller for Dormeuil; Mr Alastair Wilson, QC and Mr Alastair Drysdale Wilson for Nicolian.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that Dormeuil Freres SA was a French company and the owner of the registered trademark "Dormeuil". Dormeuil Ltd was its wholly owned subsidiary. Both traded in the cloth business. Nicolian International (Textiles) Ltd was an English company, a wholesaler in cloth, whose ruling spirit was Mr Nicolian.

In the course of an action against Nicolian to prevent the use of the Dormeuil trademark on counterfeit cloth, Dormeuil obtained an *Anton Piller* order from Mr Justice Hoffmann:

1 prohibiting Nicolian from manufacturing or selling any cloth bearing the Dormeuil trademark or from destroying any such cloth or any document relating to the sale of such cloth; and

2 ordering the delivery up of all such cloth or documents and the names and addresses of any persons connected with the sale of such cloth; and

3 giving permission to the person serving the order to enter the premises to remove the cloth and documents.

The application was supported by evidence consisting of 350 pages of affidavits and exhibits for it was not enough just to show that Nicolian was in possession of counterfeit material. Dormeuil also had to persuade Mr Justice Hoffmann that Mr Nicolian was dishonest and might destroy the goods and documents before an order to enter the premises could be served.

The evidence that Mr Nicolian had acted dishonestly included, *inter alia*, the allegations (a) that the price at which he had bought the cloth was so low that he must have known it was counterfeit; (b) that in rolls of genuine cloth but not only "Dormeuil" but also "Made in

England" was woven into the selvage and the counterfeit cloth bore no such legend; and (c) that the length of the bales of genuine and counterfeit cloth was significantly different.

Mr Justice Hoffmann made the order on February 26, 1988 and it was executed on the same day. Documents and 24,000 metres of cloth were seized and taken to the custody of Dormeuil's solicitors.

Mr Nicolian now claimed that the *ex parte* order should never have been granted as it was based on evidence in which Dormeuil had failed to disclose material facts.

Those amounts to the fact that it was impossible to tell whether the cloth was genuine since: (a) where there was intermingling between merchants substantial discounts could be obtained; (b) that some Dormeuil cloth was made up in France and did not have "Made in England" in the selvage; and (c) genuine material in bales of different lengths was available.

There was bulky evidence in reply and rejoinder and the total mass of evidence before his Lordship was over 750 pages.

The issues were: (i) should the *ex parte* order be set aside; (ii) should goods worth £180,000 be returned; and (iii) what should be the position as to the injunction against selling the counterfeit cloth until trial.

Both parties accepted that some form of injunction should continue.

It was a basic principle that a plaintiff seeking *ex parte* relief should make full disclosure of all material facts. If that were not made a court might discharge an *ex parte* order on that ground alone, but if when the matter came before the court *inter partes* justice required the continuation of the order it could be made notwithstanding some non-disclosure at the *ex parte* application.

In particular there were three decisions in the Court of Appeal, *Yardley v Higgs* (1984) FSR 304; *Lloyds Bowmaker Ltd v Britannia Arrow Holdings plc* (The Times March 19, 1987) and *Brink's-Mat Ltd v Edicom Ltd* (June 12, 1987, unreported) which suggested that the right to have the *ex parte* order lifted for material non-disclosure was a discretion, not an absolute right.

It was his Lordship's experience of those principles that they frequently gave rise to an application to discharge *ex parte* orders and, as in this case, it was frequently made at the same time as the plaintiff's application to continue the order *inter partes*.

The effect was to increase the duration and complexity of interlocutory proceedings to a great extent with endless going through the evidence. The relevant question at the *inter partes* stage was not what had happened in the past but what should happen in the future.

The court could not make a concluded finding of fact without a detailed investigation into allegation and counter-allegation. In circumstances where the conduct of the case such an investigation was a waste of the parties' money.

Time-bar against radio base plea

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Kent and Others
Before Mr Justice Pill
[Judgment May 4]

A resident who discovered on January 13, 1988 that planning permission had been granted to erect a cellular radio base near his flat was time-barred under section 245 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 from applying to the High Court for relief, as the decision of the secretary of state to allow an appeal from the refusal of the London Borough of Ealing to grant planning permission was dated November 12, 1987.

Mr Justice Pill so held in the Queen's Bench Division in refusing an application for judicial review of the decision of an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Section 245 of the 1971 Act provides: "If any person... is aggrieved... he may, within six

weeks from the date on which the order is confirmed or the action is taken, as the case may be, make an application to the High court under this section."

Mr Keith Lindblom for the applicants; Mr John Laws for the secretary of state; Mr John Hamney for Racial Vodafone Ltd.

MR JUSTICE PILL said Racial Vodafone applied to Ealing for planning permission to erect a cellular radio base station at Hanger Lane, Ealing.

Near the site there was a large block of flats and the council were in the process of demolishing it. However, they did not write to the applicant and some of his neighbours.

On November 20, 1986 the council refused the application and the company appealed to the secretary of state by notice dated March 16, 1987.

The council again notified local residents of the appeal but as a result of an oversight Mr Kent and many others were not

His Lordship shared the view of Lord Justice Slade in the *Brink's-Mat* case where he said: "Nevertheless, the nature of the principle, as I see it, is essentially penal and in its application the practical realities of any case must be taken into account."

"By their very nature, *ex parte* applications usually necessitate the giving and taking of instructions and the preparation of the requisite drafts in some haste. Particularly, in heavy commercial cases, the borderline between material facts and non-material facts may be a somewhat uncertain one."

"While in no way discounting the heavy duty of candour and care which falls on persons making *ex parte* applications, I do not think the application of the principle should be carried to extreme lengths."

"In one or two other recent cases coming before this court, I have suspected signs of a growing tendency on the part of some litigants against whom *ex parte* injunctions have been granted, or of their advisers, to rush to the collapse of the latter section of the *R v Kensington Income Tax Commissioners* (1971) 1 KB 486 principle as a *tabula in naufragio* [means of deliverance] alleging material non-disclosure on somewhat rather slender grounds, as representing substantially the only hope of obtaining the discharge of injunctions in cases where there is little hope of success on the merits of the case or on the balance of convenience."

That had also been his Lordship's experience. In the present case there had been 750 pages of evidence and a hearing of five days which without his Lordship's, perhaps overfervent, intervention might have continued even longer.

In his Lordship's judgment, it was not the correct procedure to apply to discharge an *ex parte* injunction, or an *Anton Piller* order, or a *Mareva* order at an interlocutory hearing. The sole relevance of the question as to whether or not the *ex parte* order should be set aside, was to determine whether the plaintiff was liable on its cross-understanding in damages. That was not urgent and could be done at trial.

Accordingly, his Lordship would stand over Nicolian's motion seeking to set aside Dormeuil's *ex parte* order; and would allow Dormeuil to come on as a trial of the action; and the injunction should go in the normal form except that a provision would be attached that Nicolian would not be liable for failing to disclose material facts in connection with the application to set aside the order, but would be liable to pay damages if it failed to do so.

As to Nicolian's goods that had been seized, his Lordship would allow Dormeuil seven days to photograph or mark the cloth in any way it thought it should and then return it.

Solicitors: Denton Hall Burgin & Warrens; Robbins Oliver & Blake Laphorn for Dormeuil; Chaffin Street & Co, Manchester, for Nicolian.

ITC conduct "like disreputable private debtor"

MacLaine Watson & Co Ltd v International Tin Council (No 2)
Before Lord Justice Kerr, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Hoffmann
[Judgment April 27]

The policy of the law to assist judgment creditors was applied in Order 48, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court but there was an inescapable lacuna in the wording of the order which prevented its application to unincorporated associations.

Section 37(1) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 conferred powers on the court to grant an injunction, including a mandatory injunction, where it was just and convenient. The court could grant the necessary order for disclosure to render a plaintiff's judgment against the defendant effective.

Having heard some 30 appeals, cross-appeals and applications from actions arising from the collapse of the International Tin Council ("ITC"), the court

conferred on the ITC the legal power of a body corporate, and the ITC was not within Order 48 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The order did not confer the necessary power on the court to bring the ITC within the order. Accordingly, officers of the ITC could not be made subject to a court order for examination under Order 48, rule 1.

Mr Nicholas Chambers, QC, Mr Peter Irwin and Mr Leslie Kosmin for the ITC; Mr Richard Aikens, QC, Mr Richard Hughes and Mr Adrian McGhee for MacLaine Watson.

LORD JUSTICE KERR, giving the judgment of the court, said that it was conceded that the ITC had not complied with the order of the court contained in the judgment and that MacLaine Watson was entitled to levy execution against the ITC's assets. MacLaine Watson's problem, however, was that they were unable to obtain any information about the nature, value and location of any of the ITC's assets.

The ITC had premises in London but its premises were inviolable and immune from any process of execution. All requests by MacLaine Watson for information about other

assets of the ITC had been refused.

MacLaine Watson's objective was to compel the ITC to comply with the judgment which had been entered against it in accordance with the policy of the law to assist judgment creditors. That policy was implicit in Order 48, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The judge had dealt with the scope of that order in his judgment (1987) 1 WLR 1711, 1714, 1716. In agreement with the view of the master, he reluctantly concluded that the wording of the order did not permit its application to unincorporated associations. That appeared to be an unfortunate lacuna but he considered that there was no escape from it.

Since the court did not hear MacLaine Watson's cross-appeal challenging that conclusion it would assume the correctness of the judge's conclusion on Order 48 for present purposes, without expressing any view about it one way or the other.

One then came to the alternative means whereby MacLaine Watson sought to achieve the same objective. On December 18, 1987, Mr Justice Millett summarized the resulting situation and held in favour of MacLaine Watson that the court had the necessary statutory jurisdiction.

The ITC did not challenge the judge's exercise of his discretion to make the order. So the court was concerned solely with an issue as to the court's jurisdiction.

For the jurisdiction in the present case there was no need to look further than the statutory powers conferred by section 37(1) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 and unnecessary to consider whether there was any relevant additional inherent jurisdiction.

Even if it was necessary to categorize the situations in which injunctions might be granted pursuant to section 37(1), there were at least two established grounds which satisfied the relevant tests in the present case.

First, the court did not accept Mr Chambers' contention that an attitude of total passivity on

the part of the ITC in relation to MacLaine Watson's attempts to enforce its judgment involved no "invasion of a legal or equitable right" of MacLaine Watson, to use the phrase of Lord Diplock in *Siskina (Owners of cargo lately laden on board) v Distos Compania Naviera SA* (1979) AC 210, 256, which he repeated in *British Airways Board v Laker Airways Ltd* (1985) AC 58, 81, and which was also used by Lord Brandon of Oakbrook in *South Carolina Insurance Co v Assurantie Maatschappij "De Zeeven Provincien" NV* (1987) AC 24, 40.

MacLaine Watson had an order of the court against the ITC to pay to MacLaine Watson the amount of the judgment. The ITC's failure to do so was a failure to comply with an order of the court and a breach of an obligation owed to MacLaine Watson. The court's statutory power to grant an injunction if it appeared just and convenient to do so, in this case in mandatory form, was not excluded by any authority.

Second, there was the authority of this court in *A. J. Bekhor & Co Ltd v Bilton* (1981) QB 923 and other cases that there was an inherent power under what was now section 37(1) of the 1981 Act to make any ancillary order, including an order for discovery, to ensure the effectiveness of any other order made by the court. That was what was necessary to render MacLaine Watson's judgment against the ITC effective.

The court entirely agreed with Mr Justice Millett's conclusions on this point (at p1716).

That brought to an end this series of appeals. In the light of many of its features, including the nature of the submissions advanced by the ITC in resisting the present application, the court felt that it was necessary to give some serious advice to its members, its officers in so far as they were left free to exercise independent action and judgment, and also to its legal advisers.

Solicitors: Cameron Markby, Elborne Mitchell.

In giving judgment in this case Mr Justice Millett had said (at p1713): "The ITC, it must be said, has behaved more like a disreputable private debtor concerned only to hinder and delay his creditors than the responsible international organization that it claims to be."

That was strong language, but wholly justified. Nothing had happened since had altered that picture; if anything, the passage of time and the various events had made it worse.

Having heard the appeals consecutively, and expressing themselves as moderately as they could, the court had formed the clear impression that the ITC had given no solid set about meeting its obligations in an orderly manner, having regard to its special position in the law.

Wherever the original responsibility might lie for its collapse in 1985, due to gross mismanagement or worse, the ITC was now insolvent, with debts totalling hundreds of millions of pounds. Its obligations were now to its creditors.

"It had successfully resisted the plaintiffs' attempts to procure an orderly distribution of its assets to its creditors by the appointment of a liquidator or a receiver."

The way in which it had again resisted the present proceedings, designed to assist in the enforcement of a debt to which there was no answer whatever, spoke for itself.

In the court's view that conduct was unbecoming to an international organization, to those who constituted it, to those who were responsible for its actions and to those who advised it.

The ITC's present duty was to undo to the greatest possible extent the damage to its creditors by ensuring that its assets were used to pay its debts, without any further prevarication. And its members were, in the court's view, at least morally obliged to put the ITC in funds to ensure that its creditors were ultimately paid in full.

Solicitors: Cameron Markby, Elborne Mitchell.

Power to freeze defendant's assets outside the jurisdiction

Babanaft International Co SA v Bassatne and Another
Before Mr Justice Vinelott
[Judgment April 19]

Although the issue of a *Mareva* injunction (an interlocutory order freezing the defendant's assets) was not within the jurisdiction, where a plaintiff had already obtained a judgment and sought under Order 48 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to establish

that the defendant was liable on its cross-understanding in damages, the court had jurisdiction to make an order freezing the defendant's assets outside the jurisdiction.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on an application by Babanaft International Co SA upon an order in an action made in favour of his Lordship in March. The defendants to the action were Bahadine Bassatne ("BB") and Walid Mohamed Bassatne ("WB").

Mr Anthony Clarke QC, Mr Simon Morimore and Mr Charles Haddon-Cave for Babanaft; Miss Barbara Dohmann, QC and Mr Hugo Page for BB and WB.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that he gave judgment on March 29, 1988 in an action brought by Babanaft against BB and WB. Babanaft appointed by way of equitable execution of a judgment debt against BB and WB. He held that BB and WB were liable to indemnify Babanaft for liability for a sum of over \$15m.

BB and WB were businessmen who carried on their business in the field of, among other things, oil trading world-wide. They carried on their business through a large number of companies almost all incorporated in jurisdictions - Panama, Liberia, and the Dutch Antilles - in which it was difficult for Babanaft to obtain information about their ownership, control and assets.

The shares of those companies were for the most part bearer shares, and no annual returns or accounts were required to be filed in any registry in which they could be inspected by the public.

Babanaft was, therefore, likely to face considerable difficulties in ascertaining the extent of the assets available to meet the judgment it had obtained and in enforcing that judgment. Moreover, during the course of the hearing, his Lordship was reassured by the conclusion that BB and WB would be likely to take any step open to them to frustrate or delay execution of the judgment.

With that in mind his Lordship turned to the question which he had to decide on the present application. Did the court have jurisdiction to make an order compelling BB and WB to disclose their assets outside the jurisdiction, and, if it did, should the court in the present circumstances exercise its jurisdiction by making an order restraining them from disposing of their assets outside the jurisdiction, and, if it made such an order, for how long should it last? Babanaft sought an order for disclosure of foreign assets, the power now contained in Order 48 of the Rules of the Supreme Court to order a defendant to be examined as to his assets available to meet the judgment debt.

It was held by the Court of Appeal in *Ashtiani v Iran (No 2)* (1987) 3 WLR 1042 that it was entirely consonant with the continuously expanding provisions for the reciprocal enforcement of debts between states that a judgment creditor, in the words of Lord Justice Balcombe "should have available to him a procedure under Order 48 which he can utilize to find out whether in default of any English assets there are foreign assets available to satisfy his judgment."

Turning to the reasons given by Lord Justice Dillon in *Ashtiani v Kashi* for the court's refusal to grant a *Mareva* injunction, Lord Justice Dillon, in the words of Lord Justice Balcombe "should have available to him a procedure under Order 48 which he can utilize to find out whether in default of any English assets there are foreign assets available to satisfy his judgment."

Reason (3) related to the invasion of the defendant's right to privacy. But that invasion was authorized after judgment by Order 48.

Reason (4), that a plaintiff should not be given priority by the grant of an injunction over other creditors, was stated by Lord Justice Dillon to be applicable "in advance of judgment."

Miss Dohmann placed considerable reliance on (2), the difficulty of controlling or policing enforcement proceedings in other countries. She relied also on the complications that might arise if the order was made and the plaintiffs then notified banks and other financial institutions and enterprises dealing with BB and WB in many different jurisdictions of the order and the hardship to, in particular, banks if they had to seek to recover expenses to which they were not entitled in complying with the order by proceedings in England.

Those were important practical considerations which had to be borne in mind in deciding whether to grant an injunction affecting foreign assets. Their weight had to be evaluated in the context of the particular facts and of the width of the order sought.

In the instant case the injunction was sought in aid of the examination under Order 48 - that is, to ensure that BB and WB did not frustrate the purpose of the examination.

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Solicitors: Holman Fenwick & Willan; Theodore Goddard.

Adoption onus of proof

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Singh (Gurdav)

Where a person sought admission to the United Kingdom as a dependent child of adoptive parents, the onus of proving that there had been a genuine transfer of parental responsibility to the adoptive parents on the ground of the original parents' inability to care for the child, for the purposes of rule 50 of the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (1983) (HC 169), lay upon the applicant: it was for him to satisfy the immigration officer or the adjudicator that all the requirements of rule 50 were satisfied in respect of him.

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Solicitors: Holman Fenwick & Willan; Theodore Goddard.

International Court of Justice

USA must submit dispute with UN over Anti-Terrorism Act to arbitration

Applicability of Obligation to Arbitrate under section 21 of United Nations Headquarters Agreement of June 26, 1947

Before President Ruda, Vice-President Mbaye, Judges Lachs, Nagendra Singh, Elias, Oda, Ago, Schwebel, Sir Robert Jennings, Bedjaoui, Ni, Evensen, Carasso, Guillaume and Shahabuddin
[Opinion April 26]

The United States of America was under an obligation to enter into arbitration for the settlement of a dispute between it and the United Nations, notwithstanding that the USA denied that any dispute existed unless and until the US District Court had affirmed the applicability of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1987 to the Palestine Liberation Organization's UN Observer Mission's office in New York.

International law took precedence over domestic law which could not override obligations under international treaties.

The International Court of Justice, sitting at The Hague, so held in delivering an advisory opinion, after the application of accelerated procedure, in response to a request submitted by the General Assembly of the UN under resolution 42/229B, adopted on March 2, 1988.

The request had followed the adoption by the US Congress on December 15/16, 1987, and signing by the US President on December 22, 1987 of the Anti-Terrorism Act which was aimed

specifically at the PLO and, *inter alia*, declared illegal the establishment or maintenance of an office of the PLO within the jurisdiction of the US.

The office of the PLO Mission to the UN was established in New York, outside the UN headquarters district, after the UN had conferred observer status on the PLO in 1974.

The Secretary-General of the UN, whose view was endorsed by the General Assembly, said that as the PLO were invited to the UN they were covered by the 1947 Agreement and there was an international treaty obligation upon the host country to permit PLO personnel to enter and remain in the US to carry out their official functions at UN headquarters.

Section 11 of the 1947 agreement provided: "The... authorities of the United States shall not impose any impediments to transit to or from the headquarters district of (1) representatives of members... or... (5) other persons invited to the headquarters... on official business..."

The Secretary-General sought assurances that the 1987 Act would not affect the longstanding arrangements for the PLO Observer Mission.

The US representative at the UN replied that because the provisions concerning the PLO office might infringe on the President's constitutional authority, if implemented would be contrary to their

international legal obligations, under the Headquarters Agreement, the Administration intended during the 90 days before it took effect to engage in consultations with Congress in an effort to resolve the matter.

The Secretary-General responded that as he had not received the assurances he sought, a dispute existed between the UN and the USA and he invoked the dispute settlement procedure under section 21 of the 1947 Agreement.

Section 21(a) provides: "Any dispute between the United Nations and the United States concerning the interpretation or application of this agreement which is not settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement, shall be referred for final decision to a tribunal of three arbitrators..."

While agreeing to informal discussions the US said it was still evaluating the situation and could not enter into section 21 procedure. After further exchanges the General Assembly on March 2, 1988 adopted two resolutions, the first reaffirming the PLO facilities, stating that the 1987 Act was contrary to the 1947 Agreement and that the section 21 procedure should be set in operation, and the second requesting an advisory opinion of the International Court.

On March 11, the US told the Secretary-General that the US Attorney-General had determined that the 1987 Act required him to close the PLO

office, but that if legal action were required to ensure compliance, no further action would be taken pending a decision in such a case by the US courts.

The PLO took no steps to comply with the 1987 Act and the Attorney-General sued for compliance in the Southern District Court of New York. The US told the International Court that since the matter was pending in the US court it did not believe arbitration would be appropriate or timely.

In its judgment, the International Court stated that its sole task was to determine whether the US was obliged to enter into arbitration under section 21. It had in particular to decide whether the measures adopted by the US in regard to the PLO mission ran counter to the 1947 Agreement.

The Court had to decide whether a dispute existed, whether it concerned the interpretation or application of the 1947 Agreement and if so, whether it was one not settled by negotiation or other agreed mode of settlement.

Whether there existed an international dispute was a matter for objective determination: it was not for the US to decide. The US had to show that the 1987 Act required him to close the PLO

Romania (ICJ Reports 1950 p74).

A dispute was "a disagreement on a point of law or fact, a conflict of legal views or of interests between two persons". See *Administrative Tribunal v Concessions (PCU Series A No 2)* p11.

THE TIMES

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

May 5, 1988

George Tolley, an academic with his eye on industry, predicts a serious shortage of 'brain power' during the next decade

The demand for graduates and others with higher education qualifications is high. It is likely to remain so because employers are, more and more, needing a workforce with a high level of skills and general intellectual capability. The output from higher education during the next decade will, almost certainly, be insufficient to meet the demand. It is not only a matter of shortage of skills in specific areas such as electronics or manufacturing systems engineering. The country will be short of brain power in general.

Increasing the participation rate in higher education from 14 per cent in 1986 to 18.5 per cent in the late 1990s will do no more than maintain current numbers in higher education. Unless attitudes towards higher education change and unless selection procedures for higher education change also, we shall not even achieve that modest increase in participation.

There are two main problems. Firstly, we shall not have an adequately educated society unless the need for more higher education is accepted and becomes a part of our culture. It is not so at the moment. Expectations of need and opportunity for higher education are too low. Secondly, the selection methods of universities, dominated as they are by the dependence upon A level scores, must be changed so that wider access can be achieved.

A recent report from Industry Matters has looked at these issues.

It is provocatively titled *Raising the Standard*. While acknowledging the rhetoric in favour of widening access to higher education, the report concludes that not much will change unless two things happen. The dominance of A level scores in the selection process must be broken. And the skills and qualities that make for effective graduate performance in employment must figure more prominently in the selection of entrants for higher education and of graduates for employment.

The report is blunt in its comment upon present inadequacy: "A level dominance has served its purpose for what must now be seen as the anachronism of a higher education system that nurtures a thin stream of excellence. The nation now needs a broad highway of competence in which excellence will have its part, but not as the best being the enemy of the good."

It fears the exacerbation of a "league table mentality", in which the quality of universities and polytechnics and of departments and courses is judged and expressed in terms of the A level scores of entrants, rather than in the quality of the graduates. It sees a higher education system in which the role of the customer, whether individual student or employer, is consistently underplayed.

Unless access to higher education is widened, employers and the country as a whole will be denied the supply of skills and



competence necessary for survival in a competitive world.

Employers, for their part, have a responsibility to encourage wider access. If only to ensure the survival of their organizations. They should be giving greater recognition to vocational qualifications, alongside A levels, as evidence of general educational attainment. They should be influencing those professional bodies who, in insisting upon graduate entry, also narrow down entry in favour of the standard, conventional entrant to universities (one who goes with A levels straight from school). They should be sharing their expertise in the selection of graduates for employment with admissions tutors who select entrants for higher education.

Unless these things happen on a significant scale, then too many graduates will continue to be

Higher education must be part of our culture, for industry's sake

produced in a mould that fits them for academic progression, rather than for a wider, more fulfilling and more productive role.

Wherever universities and polytechnics have deliberately aimed to take more mature and non-standard entrants - that is, those without conventional A levels - two things have become clear. Firstly, that there is a substantial demand for access to be widened. Secondly, that the quality of those seeking non-standard entry is high. They do very well by comparison with standard entrants. There remains a pool of ability to be tapped. But opening up access to higher education is not just a matter of opening one or two doors a little wider in order to let more people into a room that does not change its furniture.

A wider clientele calls for changes in teaching and learning methods. Acceptance of students from a wider background, many of them mature and with varied experience, emphasizes the need

for higher education to help graduates acquire the qualities that will be both personally fulfilling for them and satisfying and productive in employment.

Subject knowledge alone, however scarce in supply, is not nearly enough. The qualities and skills that the graduate must be able to deploy have to do with decision-making, problem-solving, communication, the ability to work in and to lead a team, the ability to learn and to adapt. And, increasingly, graduates must be enterprising, which means putting all these qualities and skills to work, with personal drive to achieve personal goals in situations of considered risk.

In too much of higher education these things are considered to be by-products or peripheral, or they are not considered at all. Employers must ensure that they are considered as an essential part of the central concern of universities and polytechnics with qual-

ity. For the need to widen access and to emphasize the broader qualities of mind and skill of graduates has nothing to do with undermining academic excellence. A better educated society should be a better achieving society in which academic excellence is secure.

If selection procedures for jobs in industry denied entry to, or made it very difficult for, able people of quality, and at the same time resulted in a mismatch between skills and qualities required and those offered, then employers would be rightly concerned and would do something about it.

But this is the situation in higher education. Admissions procedures in universities and polytechnics should be: valid and reliable, perceived as being fair, readily understood, responsive to changing need, flexible, cost-effective, and be consistent with a broad, balanced and relevant school curriculum. Existing proce-

dures do not satisfy these requirements. That they do not do so must be a matter of concern within education. And it must concern employers also, for any shortcomings affect the most vital raw material for employment and for the country as a whole - its highly qualified.

The Great National Autumn Handicap, which follows hard upon the publication of A level results, has become an annual spectacle. It clearly demonstrates a cracking system, a system that is rejecting more than it is selecting, and which gives a spurious proxy for quality to A level points as though these were an adequate measure of a person's quality of mind.

The system is based upon assumptions and procedures that deny the wider access that is needed in the names both of good, sense and equity. For it is foolish and short-sighted to live in a past in which higher education was restricted to the privileged few. And it is inequitable to deny access to those of evident ability. It is a system that cannot meet the needs of the country for an adequate supply of educated manpower.

Dr George Tolley was formerly principal of Sheffield City Polytechnic and is chairman of the Education-Industry Forum of Industry Matters, the successor to Industry Year 1986.

Raising the Standard is available from Industry Matters, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ.

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As a key member of a professional team, you will complement and support our Executive Search consultants in identifying and investigating sources of potential candidates and evaluating company performance and individual contribution.

A degree or equivalent is required, but equally important is initiative, the ability to work under pressure and a sound understanding of and an interest in the business world. Two or three years commercial experience and a thorough understanding of corporate management structures is essential. Additional training will be given in Executive Search techniques.

Salary is negotiable and there is a profit sharing scheme and other benefits which add up to a very attractive package. There are excellent prospects for career development within an expanding and professional organisation.

Please send full career and personal details to: Penny Fieldhouse, March Consulting Group, March House, 12 Park Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1LU.

Professional Services Officer

Use your financial skills in this challenging and rewarding role

Up to £12,000 London W1

My client is the leading professional body for Company Secretaries and Administrators. Part of a team within the Professional Services Department you will have responsibility for a wide range of duties including drafting policy documents and organising conferences relating to various specialist panels and groups including Investment and Financial Services, Accounting, Finance and Taxation and Internal Auditing.

A graduate in accountancy or with a related degree in your first accountancy position in commerce, this opportunity offers excellent prospects for career development including the opportunity to study to become a member of ICSA, financed by the Institute.

Please apply with full C.V. to Jackie Chadwick, PER, PO Box 950, London SW1V 4PX.

PER
Britain's Largest Executive Recruitment Consultancy

Sales Manager Gardening

Owing to expansion, we require the services of a person to be responsible for the sales of a wide range of fast-selling branded packs of plants and bulbs, mainly to the major multiples of the UK.

Preferably applicants should have experience of hardy nursery stock and bulbs and should have a proven record of success in this field.

This is an important opportunity for a sales-minded person, who will be self-motivated, enjoy working in a small, friendly but effective team, intent on improving our products and services to the customer.

Please send C.V. and details of current remuneration in total confidence to:

David Sutton, G.T. Sutton Limited, School Road, West Walton, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire PE14 7DS.

OFFICE/PRACTICE MANAGER

Excellent opportunity for a confident career-minded professional to join London Branch Office of major American law firm in position of great responsibility.

Your role will be varied, challenging and rewarding. Experience in personnel management, administration, and financial accounting and reporting is essential. The position calls for energy, motivation, a sense of humour, self-confidence and the ability to work independently.

Commitment and extensive involvement in all aspects of this challenging position will be rewarded with a generous salary.

Please write with full C.V. to BOX 044. All replies held in strictest confidence.

CHASE DE VERE

PALL MALL

CHASE DE VERE PALL MALL LTD

One of the country's leading mortgage brokers, are seeking further mortgage advisers to be based in the North London, Hertfordshire and Essex areas. Benefits include basic salary, company car, and commission. Excellent career prospects within an expanding company.

Applicants must have relevant experience and be able to further the company's high standards and reputation.

Telephone: Chris McDonald
01 839 4272
125 Pall Mall, London SW1

TELEPHONE SALES EXECUTIVES for INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

(Based in London and the South East)

We are looking for 2 Sales people to

a) Obtain leads for our Spanish Teams
b) To sell our Services/Products

To qualify for an interview you must:-

a) be self motivated
b) be aged 25 - 30 years
c) have track record indirect sales
d) have telephone sales experience
e) be goal orientated

f) be prepared for some evening work
g) be able to present confidently
h) be organised
i) be prepared for occasional travel
j) have a desire to succeed

CONTACT
JANET BUTTERFIELD
ON 01-499 6187

ASSISTANT SECRETARY (Administration)

London SW5 £17,500 pa

for the British College of Optometrists - the learned, professional and examining body for optometry in Britain.

The person appointed will be responsible for the General Secretary for all aspects of the administration of the College, including finance, staff, property and activities relating to professional conduct, public relations, publications etc. and for servicing the College Council and Committees.

He or she should be capable of deputising for the General Secretary in representing the College in meetings with other organisations, Government departments, etc.

Write in confidence with detailed curriculum vitae to: Managing Director, Massey's Executive Selection, 100 Baker Street, London W1M 2BA. 01-935 8694

LETTINGS MANAGEMENT NEGOTIATORS

We require 2 Management Negotiators for our new Housing and Office Buildings departments. The ability to work well under pressure with an enthusiastic and organised approach is essential. Previous experience essential but not essential. Excellent career opportunities, full training provided. Driving license required. Contact:

Bethesda Thomas, Residential Property Services, 200 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, USA.

Michelle Thomas, Residential Property Services, 116, Kensington High St, W8 5HT, London.

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

MARKETING CONSULTANTS

We need high quality professionals to advise clients in the public and private sectors both in the U.K. and abroad on marketing issues in such areas as business strategy, the feasibility of new ventures, and improving marketing performance.

We expect:

- a good first degree,
- a minimum of five years in the marketing and sales function.
- experience preferably in marketing either firm or industrial goods. Languages would also be an asset.

We offer you the opportunity to join an expanding team of marketing consultants, excellent career prospects and competitive remuneration. Please send a c.v. with remuneration history and quoting ref. ME/MY8 to Mike Coney, Recruitment Manager.

KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

Management Consultants

1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD

DEPUTY HEAD OF

Property Finance

WEST END £NEG+BENEFITS

The property operations of the Ladbroke Group PLC has an immediate requirement for a key individual to join the finance team dealing with institutions and pension funds.

Reporting to the Head of Property Finance, the successful candidate must be proactive, commercially aware, with excellent communication skills and professionally qualified. A minimum of 2 years experience in investment funding is essential.

In addition to the indicated salary level, the position offers an excellent benefits package which includes a fully expensed car, executive share options, private health cover. Relocation costs will be provided where necessary.

Please send full CV and details of current income to Vic Gaffin, Director of Human Resources, Ladbroke HRD Centre, 10th Floor, Hilton National Hotel, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 8DS.

Ladbroke. The Far From Leisurely Leisure Group

The LEK Partnership

The LEK Partnership is a leading firm of strategy consultants with offices in London, Boston, Los Angeles and Sydney. The firm was founded in 1983 in the UK and has grown rapidly to become one of the leading strategy consulting firms in Britain.

We work primarily for Chairmen, CEOs and Boards of Directors on issues of competitive strategy. Our clients are all major corporations in their own right, including household names in the field of financial services, natural resources, consumer products, and high technology.

In order to sustain growth and to meet the demand for our services we have a need for a number of highly motivated individuals who can demonstrate a record of achievement and leadership in their current positions. Such individuals will be in their late 20's or 30's, will probably, though not necessarily, hold an MBA or equivalent from a leading U.S. or European business school and have significant business experience.

Successful candidates will have the intellectual calibre to develop strategies in complex industries and the personal stature to present these strategies to senior executives. Initiative and leadership potential are essential and candidates must be prepared to commit to the continued development of a top quality firm.

Compensation will reflect the quality and experience of the individuals as well as the demanding nature of the job. Please send applications to Sarah Murray, Recruitment Co-ordinator, the LEK Partnership, 1-11 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6BW by 20 May 1988.

MACHINE TOOL TRADES ASSOCIATION

The MTTA is the national organisation for the machine tool and manufacturing technology industry in the UK and represents the industry on a wide range of fronts - marketing, export, statistics, education, engineering, research, training, public relations, Europe and information.

The industry occupies a central place in the engineering and manufacturing industries so the Association is in a position to offer considerable benefits to 300 plus members.

Vacancies will occur during the next few months in two key executive positions and we are looking for suitable candidates to fill them.

Secretary of the Association

This important position involves the whole administrative function of the Association (total staff - 18) including accounting, computer, printing, equipment, staff conditions, committees, functions, membership with the support of 3 members of staff.

This position would suit a person qualified or part-qualified in legal, accounting or company secretarial functions. Good management experience is essential.

The starting salary for this position is in the region of £18,000 p.a. plus car. The office is in Central London. Age preferred: 35-45.

Technical Manager

The initial objective for this executive will be to complete the production of the BS 5750 sector quality schemes to all member companies. Additional responsibilities to be developed will include the monitoring of the national and international standards programme (with 1988 in mind) and the responsibility for building on recent initiatives taken in education, training and research areas. This position offers a special opportunity to participate in the spread of knowledge of all areas of manufacturing technology of industry for the benefit of members.

The suitable candidate for this position will most likely have some experience of BS 5750 and of the manufacturing industry and the ability to work with committees and communications.

The starting salary for this position is in the region of £20,000 p.a. plus car.

The office is in Central London. Age preferred: 35-45.

For further information contact:

John Howarth, Director General at MTTA,

62 Baywater Road, London W2 3PS.

INFORMATION SPECIALISTS

An International Consultancy firm that specialises in providing corporate intelligence offers vacancies for Business Researchers in their London office.

Applicants should be bilingual computer-literate, have some experience with on line databases, and have good research and writing skills.

Please send CV to: Kroll Associates UK Ltd,

Leconfield House, Canon Street, London W1V 7FB

FAITHFUL

FACTORY MANAGER

Salary: £15K + Car + Profit Share + Bonus + Permanent Health Insurance WORCESTERSHIRE

Faithful Limited are one of the largest manufacturers of workwear and foul weather protective clothing in the U.K. We offer our customers an extensive range of garments from stock, a design service for custom built garments and the knowledge that our high quality standards are reflected by our commitment and approval to BS5750.

We are seeking a dynamic Factory Manager responsible to the Production General Manager, for all aspects of garment manufacture and distribution. Applicants aged 25-40 will have proven production and management skills, gained preferably in a clothing environment, must be self-motivated, cost orientated and possess a sound knowledge of work study. These are considered prime requirements for a person capable of managing a fast moving, batch production factory.

Salary and fringe benefits are excellent and include relocation expenses to this delightful part of the West Midlands.

Please write with full career details to:

Mr K. Pennington, General Production Manager, Faithful Limited, Northwick Road, Worcester WR3 7DU, quoting reference: WFM134.

BOOKKEEPER

required for fashion company in West End with experience upto trial balance. Typing useful but not essential. Age: 25ish.

Salary upto £11,000 p.a. depending on experience.

Tel: 631 3959

No agencies

PERSONNEL MANAGER

£25,000-£35,000

This leading professional City Firm is looking to appoint a Personnel Manager to join its expanding, forward-thinking personnel department. It is an international practice having approximately 600 staff and is well-known for its professional approach within a friendly and informal working environment.

Reporting to the Administrative Controller, the main emphasis of this role will be on the recruitment of fee earning staff and Articled Clerks. Your other responsibilities will include the provision of a full personnel service to the Firm involving personnel advice and counselling.

This is a key role within the Firm requiring someone with first-class interpersonal skills who enjoys being in a front-line position and ideally has experience of working in a partnership.

A graduate, aged 28-40, you will have a minimum of 5 years' proven personnel experience working preferably within the professions or a service industry. Experience of professional recruitment would be a distinct advantage.

For further information, please call 01-831 1220 or send your details to Alison Jarvis or Carol Martyn.

01-831 1220

RECRUITMENT COMPANY

5 GARRICK STREET WC2E 9AR

PROGRAMMES RECRUITMENT HAVE INTERESTING TELEPHONE MARKETING AND SALES POSITIONS IN THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRIES:

Insurance company setting up UK operation in SE. All areas require person (22+) to join their telemarketing team.

Salary offered £8,500-£12,000.

We are looking for a bright, energetic person with good communication skills who is interested in training. Insurance and keyboard skills are an advantage.

Franchise negotiator (25+) required to sell in home improvements industry. Basic salary £8,000 - £12,000 + commission + car. 3-4 years selling experience essential.

A UK vending service company in NW10 are looking for a telesales executive with 2-3 years experience who relishes a challenge. The job involves setting qualified appointments and building a database of prospects.

Salary offered is £8,000 - £9,500 + bonus on achievement of targets. This is a key position with the opportunity to run your own team in the near future.

Software company in Feltham are looking for 4 telemarketing people to make sales, arrange evaluations, gather information and maintain existing accounts. Candidates must be 23+, have 'A' levels, experience in the computer industry and a proven track record in telemarketing. Salary offered is basic £11,000 + commission.

Mobile Communications - Wembley. Previous experience in supervising a telemarketing team? This is a challenging position with a high level of responsibility. The job involves running all aspects of a telemarketing dept, including recruitment, training and achieving team targets. The basic salary is £10,000 with an excellent commission structure (£20,000 OTE in your first year). Excellent prospects for an able candidate.

There are also 4 opportunities in Wembley for people with 'A' level education who want to begin their career. Starting at the bottom, you will begin by setting appointments for the field sales team. After your first year you will have the opportunity to move on within the company. Starting salary is £6,500 (£10,000 OTE).

All the above vacancies are IMMEDIATE. If you are interested, call Helen, Monday to Friday, 9am-7pm on 01 328 5513.

PROGRAMMES RECRUITMENT LIMITED

MARRIED? CHILDREN PAST THE POTTY STAGE? WANT TO GET BACK TO WORK? WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL LIKE YOU!

We are the small (very small) European office of a major US stock market (America's second largest and the world's third). We need someone with special talents: someone with initiative and responsibility, who can turn their hand to just about anything, from filing to typing, from answering the telephone to running the office in the absence of others.

You should be smart, well-spoken and a self-starter. Most of all, you must have the resilience to cope on your own from time to time, without regular company.

We will train you to use a word processor (if you don't already know) and also a Desk Top Publishing system (PageMaker). We can pay you around £9,500 p.a., depending on your qualifications, with excellent prospects for improvement on the figure if your performance justifies it.

If you think you're special enough to fit the bill, call Helen on the number below. Remember, age or sex is no barrier, and strikingly violent need not apply. Young, unmarried, no children, but think you might fit the bill call us anyway, you never know!

NASDAQ

INTERNATIONAL

43 LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5TB

TEL: 01 374 6969/4499

SALES EXECUTIVES

£18,000 + CAR + OTE £28,000

If you are professional, aged 23-30, with a proven track record, your success in commerce and sales warrants such high rewards, then here is your opportunity...

Read information services, leaders in business information and publishers of Kelly's Directories, need five competitive salesmen to add to their London and Home Counties sales teams.

The training course for this vital, interesting and challenging sales role starts in May, so please immediately to discuss these career opportunities with Simon Marchant (Ref 546)

Scott Marchant Recruitment, Essex House, Station Road, Upminster Essex RM14 2SL Tel: 0462 56577 (24 hrs)

DIVISION FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

£217,000

HEATHROW AREA

We are a recognised leader in our specialised field of Retail Financial Services. Recent dramatic growth has resulted in a 300% increase in sales. As a direct result of the success to date we are looking for a person to manage our new business development to strengthen our financial position. Reporting to the Group Financial Controller, the Division Financial Controller will have responsibility for the financial control and management of the Division.

This is a new opportunity to work in a fast growing environment and to play an important role in a successful company. The Candidates should be aged 25-40 with a proven track record, ability and experience to cope with the challenging position.

PLEASE APPLY IN WRITING (IN CONFIDENCE) QUOTING CR/01 FINANCIAL CONTROLLER 2-18 WOODSIDE PLACE LONDON WC1H 0LS

ARCHIVING/LIBRARY ASSISTANT

We are a busy friendly young firm of Consulting Engineers near Farringdon tube station and we need an assistant to help with our archiving and some library work. A logical and methodical approach is essential. May suit graduate or mature person returning to work. Non-smoker.

Four weeks' holiday and free lunches three times a week, together with good starting salary.

Please write to: Alison Greig,

Alan Rafter & Associates,

14-16 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6DR.

£18,000 EARNINGS

Do you want to earn an executive income and still have time for yourself?

We are a leading company in portable computer sales and due to the expansion of our product range we require enthusiastic, self-motivated sales people to sell in key territories.

Full support and training given for this new and exciting challenge.

For full details contact

Jill Hopkins on

0628 70912.

ANNABELINDA DRESS DESIGNERS

Are looking for an intelligent energetic and attractive person aged 25 - 35 years to join their team in Oxford.

You must be passionate about colour, fabrics and clothes, you must be versatile, patient have a good sense of humour and enjoy working with people. You must be articulate and have an easy telephone manner.

Apply in writing to Mrs B O'Hanlon, Annabelinda, 6 Gloucester Street Oxford OX1 2BN.

POLITICS AND PR IN EUROPE

Graduate Research Assistant required. Must be able to write well, speak a foreign language, type and take dictation, be free to travel and have at least 2 years work experience. Salary negotiable.

Send CV to

MEP Research Services

23 Golden Square

London W1R 3PA.

BSC General Steels

Scunthorpe Works

CHIEF CHEMIST

BSC General Steels, Scunthorpe Works, intend to appoint a Chief Chemist based at Scunthorpe.

Responsibilities include co-ordination of all routine and development activities associated with chemical analysis in a large integrated iron and steelworks with four laboratories utilising both on and off-line instrumentation.

The range of activities vary from raw materials analysis, to in-plant control analysis for cokemaking, ironmaking and steelmaking processes as well as analysis of finished products, coke oven by-products, water, effluent and lubricants.

The analytical requirements include routine and special analysis by a variety of methods including optical emission spectroscopy, x-ray fluorescence, gas chromatography as well as a wide range of traditional chemical techniques.

Candidates should have a good honours degree and several years experience of industrial chemistry and management skills appropriate to the above activities.

The remuneration package is commensurate with the responsibilities involved.

Closing date: 20 May 1988

Applications should be made to:

Employment Services Officer

British Steel Corporation

General Steels

Scunthorpe Works

PO Box 1

Scunthorpe

South Humberside

DN16 1BP

CHARTERHOUSE APPOINTMENTS

ANALYSTS

We have a number of clients who are seeking to fill vacancies in their research departments. They are willing to pay Top Dollar for qualified and experienced research analysts with expertise in:

LEISURE SECTOR (BREWERIES, TV)

PROPERTY AND BUILDINGS

GERMANY

All positions are with reputable UK houses who are willing to offer top salaries and benefits.

JAPANESE WARRENT SALES TOP SALARY

A major international Securities House is currently seeking salesmen with over two years experience in Japanese Warrents. The package for this position is totally negotiable and existing potential is extraordinary.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEALERS NEGOTIABLE SALARIES

We are currently holding a number of positions for Foreign Exchange Dealers. Our clients major international Banks are offering rewarding salaries and benefits.

CURRENCY OPTIONS

2/3 YEARS SPOT DEALING IN ALL MAJOR CURRENCIES

If you are interested in discussing any of the above openings please call Tim Giles or Martin Made.

01 481 3188

Europe House, World Trade Centre, London E1 9AA



A Change of Direction

If your career is at a dead end and you are considering a change of direction this could be the opportunity you are looking for.

As one of the country's foremost financial management groups we can enable you, with the help of our reputation and resources to build your own business as a Financial Management Consultant.

Excellent training, first class administrative support and one of the widest, most

innovative ranges of products on the market will all play their part in your success. But the most vital ingredients of all in this fast growing field will be your own drive and determination.

If you have drive and energy, Allied Dunbar can offer you all the success you seek with none of the trappings.

PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUIDANCE

For more information call:

Neil Macdonald - London & Home Counties 01 631 1818

Graham Jowett - Bristol & South West 0272 732779

Paul Forster - Cheshire & North Wales 0244 29521

Stuart Jervier - Manchester & Stoke 061 873 7100

John Hinchley - Birmingham & Midlands 021 631 4059

Peter Cumming - Southern Counties 0705 257231

Robin Hobbins - Norwich & East Anglia 0603 619281

We are an equal opportunities Company

STOCK/PURCHASING MANAGER

Urgently required for the purchasing department of this large prestigious Alloy Castings Company. Responsible for controlling and purchasing procedures, tendering for supplies, negotiating terms and conditions with suppliers. Developing operational policies and procedures. Proven management level experience of purchasing stock and stores control essential. Must have professional account and experience. Aged 25-40. Excellent company benefits. Salary up to £22,000 p.a.

Please contact: Olga immediately

ON 499 5581

Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants

16 Laureldowne Row, London W1X 7LN.

ALFRED MARKS

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PLUG IN TO THE POWERHOUSE

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481

CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS GROUP

3 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5PJ
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-256 8501

Opportunity to become Managing Director in 6-18 months

**GENERAL MANAGER
- BOARD APPOINTMENT**

LIVERPOOL

BIBBY TECHNICAL SERVICES - A MEMBER OF THE BIBBY LINE GROUP
£30,000-£35,000 + BONUS

Our client owns companies who provide contract professional and technical personnel and engineering design services, and are looking to appoint a General Manager to assist line management in the development of existing businesses and to plan and execute an expansion programme through acquisition. Applications are invited from qualified Accountants, aged 35-45, preferably who have worked at senior management level in either an engineering or services environment. Reporting will be to the Bibby Line Group Managing Director and the successful candidate must be able to demonstrate the necessary leadership qualities to generate a major increase in the size of the division. Domestic and European travel will be necessary. Initial salary negotiable, £30,000-£35,000 + bonus scheme, car, BUPA, contributory pension scheme, assistance with relocation expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference GMB20931/TT, will be forwarded unopened to our client: CJA

A career appointment offering significant scope for future development

CJA**HEAD OF PERSONNEL**

CITY

PROGRESSIVE AND EXPANDING MERCHANT BANK - MEMBER OF BROADLY BASED MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP
£28,000-£32,000 + BENEFITS

This appointment calls for candidates of graduate calibre, I.P.M. qualified and aged 30-40. The candidate will have had a progressive and wide-ranging personnel career with at least 5 years financial sector experience. This will include not less than 2 years in a management role and will ideally have been gained within a medium sized investment/merchant banking organisation. A full understanding of present day practices, including computer applications and relevant legislation is necessary. Reporting to the Director of Administration and heading a small team, the successful candidate will be responsible for all aspects of the personnel function. A prime task will be the development of systems, tailored to meet both the needs of the individual and the demands of this growing organisation. The ability to win respect and confidence at all levels is essential together with communication skills, imagination and a capacity for problem solving. Initial salary negotiable £28,000-£32,000, discretionary bonus, car, non-contributory pension, life assurance, mortgage subsidy and free family medical cover. Applications in strict confidence under reference HOP4598/TT to the Managing Director: CJA

Excellent prospects exist in this expanding organisation.

CJA**INVESTMENT ANALYST/
ASSISTANT FUND MANAGER**

LONDON W.C.2

PRIVATE INVESTMENT COMPANY

c.£30,000 + BONUS

Our client is a small private investment company managing listed investment companies. Owing to expansion they now seek an Assistant to work closely with the Fund Managers. The emphasis will be on researching and generating investment ideas, particularly in the U.K. and U.S. markets and developing expertise in Continental Europe, the Far East and Australia. Applicants should be educated to degree level, with a demonstrable track record as an investment analyst (minimum 4 years' experience) and a sense of market timing. There will be considerable autonomy and responsibility, contact with institutional shareholders and day to day contact with the executive directors. Our client has an open mind on age, but presence and a polished manner are essential. Initial remuneration is negotiable according to age and experience c.£30,000 + bonus and good company benefits. Applications in strict confidence under reference AFM4597/TT to the Managing Director: CJA

An exciting opportunity to join a major multi-national group with career advancement prospects second to none

ALPS**FINANCIAL CONTROLLER**

MIDDLESEX

MANUFACTURER OF SENSORS AND INSTRUMENTATION - DIVISION OF A MULTI-NATIONAL GROUP
£23,000-£26,000 + CAR

As a result of an internal promotion, our clients need a Financial Controller for a division manufacturing sensors for the aerospace market. We invite applications from Accountants (CIMA, ACA, ACCA), aged 28-30, with at least 2 years PQ experience in industry. As a member of the Management team, the Financial Controller will play a vital role in the running of this successful business and, assisted by a small team, will have total responsibility for finance and data processing functions, using an IBM System 38. The appointed candidate will be ambitious, self-motivated, and have strong communication skills. Initial salary negotiable £23,000-£26,000 + fully-expensed car, company benefits and assistance with relocation expenses, if necessary. Applications, in strict confidence by telephone on 01-588 3114 or under reference EC158/TT, to the Managing Director: ALPS

3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PJ. TELEPHONE 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374, FAX: 01-256 8501.

ORGANISATIONS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE ON RECRUITMENT: PLEASE TELEPHONE 01-481 7331

**INSURANCE
OPPORTUNITY**

Applications are invited for the post of Assistant Company Secretary (Insurance).

Remploy is an expanding Company providing employment for 5000 disabled people at 94 factories and 2 warehouses throughout Great Britain. We have over 50 businesses and can offer a challenging position for an experienced insurance administrator.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the Company's insurance portfolio and claims, and therefore, will have a very busy and varied workload.

The ideal candidate will be either qualified or studying for the Chartered Insurance Institute diploma or be a recently qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries. Age range 25-35.

We offer an excellent benefits package including Company pension scheme, 25 days annual holiday, 36 1/2 hour week, and subsidised staff restaurant.

Please send your c.v. or write/telephone for an application form to:

Remploy

Personnel Officer,
Remploy Ltd.
415 Edgware Rd.,
Cricklewood,
London NW2 6LF.
Tel: 01-452 8020
extn. 4307.

Remploy is an
Equal Opportunities
Employer.**The Wellcome Trust
Investment
Clerk**

The Wellcome Trust invites written applications for the position of Investment Clerk/Typist in the Finance Department.

Duties will be varied and include monitoring investment transactions on a PC, and assisting with the day-to-day operations of the department.

Salary up to £10,500 (a.a.e.), plus L.V.s, non-contributory pension scheme, medical costs insurance and 23 days' annual leave. Non-smoker preferred.

Applicants should send their c.v., plus the names and addresses of two referees to Sylvia Ling, The Wellcome Trust, 1 Park Square West, London NW1 4LJ to be received within ten working days of the appearance of this advertisement.

NO AGENCIES

**YOUNG MANAGER TO
ASSIST MD**

Required by fast growing national business consultancy based in Buckinghamshire. This new position is an opportunity for a young manager to gain wide experience of every aspect of the business and offers the prospect of rapid personal and career development.

The ideal candidate will be a graduate with 3/5 years experience and will have completed a management training programme. Good knowledge of computers and database management is essential. A background in marketing and/or finance would be an advantage.

Excellent salary by negotiation.

Please reply, enclosing CV to:

Clive Morton,
Morton Hodson & Co. Ltd.,
20, Park Street,
Princes Risborough, Bucks HP17 9AH.

**MORTON
HODSON****AREA SALES EXECUTIVE**

£10,500 + Car

South East: Multi National Company

Age 22-28 Educated Up to 'A' Level Standard (with a Technical Bias.) Selling Building Systems, to Industry, Commerce & Local Authorities, exposure to a selling environment would be an advantage. Although full training is provided, excellent company backup + full benefits package.

For more details & interview time, ring

PREMIERE EMPLOYMENT 0442 231370**CONSULTANCY
IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
MANAGEMENT**

YOU are in your late twenties or early thirties, in the fast stream of your organisation - either a generalist or a member of a professional group - with demonstrable skills and experience in addressing new management initiatives, and a record of achievement in problem solving under pressure. You have a thorough understanding of central government, and of the managerial issues currently facing it. With your communications skills you are effective at persuading people to implement change.

WE are a leading firm of management consultants, providing the full range of consultancy services to clients in every sector of the economy. For a decade we have been helping central government think through, develop and implement a programme of change in the way it manages itself. The

demand for our services is continuing to grow, and we need professional men and women of the highest quality to enable us to meet it. WE offer involvement at the leading edge of the process of change. We provide implementation support, both in carrying through changes planned by government departments, and in carrying out our own recommendations once they have been accepted. Our remuneration package includes a competitive salary and a car, but the main attraction to you is likely to be the combination of job satisfaction and the prospect of rapid progression. If you would like to hear more about the consultancy opportunities we can offer you, please write to Barrie Collins quoting reference P/MA/T and tell him what you can offer us.

KPMG

Peat Marwick McLintock

KPMG

Management Consultants

1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD

ITT

PUBLITEC, a subsidiary of the multinational corporation ITT, has recently set up an International Research Development and Support Centre in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. We currently have an opening for a

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN M/F

The position reports to the Information Specialist and will be responsible for purchasing and circulation of books and periodicals for the company's small technical library. Other functions will include reference work, cataloguing and indexing of company documents. Ideally the successful candidate will have basic library education, word processing and DBMS skills.

Two years experience in a service oriented company would be an asset. Foreign language skills are a distinct advantage.

ITT Publitec offers a professional and challenging working environment along with a very competitive compensation package. Applications together with c.v. in English should be sent asap to Jennifer Schubert, Personnel Manager, ITT Publitec, P.O. Box 12481, 1100 AL Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**APPOINTMENT OF
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Applications are invited from 'serving or retired officers of the regular services' who have had the equivalent of Grade 1 Staff experience for the appointment of Deputy Secretary TAVRA for Greater London which becomes vacant on or about 1 August 1988.

In addition to being Deputy Secretary, with the responsibilities for the peacetime administration of the Reserve Forces in London, the appointment includes special responsibilities for Cadet Forces and the management of a large property portfolio. Whilst a wide knowledge of service procedures is essential to the appointment the successful applicant must also be able to cope with the more direct commercial and financial responsibilities involved in the Association system of operation.

The successful applicant will be required to pass a medical and contribute to the Association Pension Fund. He will be expected to live within a reasonable distance of London.

Salary level £12,196 rising to £15,263 by 5 annual increments, incl London Weighting and non-pensionable addition. A car is provided.

Applications should be submitted with CV to:-

Secretary
TAVRA for Greater London
Duke of York's Headquarters
Kings Road
London SW3 4RY

by 20 MAY 1988, names of two referees to be included.

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We are looking for not only an experienced person, but someone who is a self starter and can work on their own. The long term prospects could be excellent for the right person.

Salary, etc be negotiation.

Please write in the first instance to (including full c.v.):

The Managing Director
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The Council of Law Reporting, a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity, is seeking a Chartered Accountant to replace the present Secretary who is retiring shortly. The Council publishes the Law Reports, the Weekly Law Reports and the Industrial Cases Reports. The successful candidate will control a small office and warehouse, and will be responsible for the day to day management of the Council's affairs including the accounting function, subscription recording and collection, printing and distribution of publications and liaising with the editorial department. A working knowledge of microcomputers is essential, and an interest in OCR techniques and the electronic transfer of data to the printers would be an advantage.

The post carries a good salary with the benefit of a non-contributory pension and life assurance scheme. Please write in the first instance enclosing a CV to

R H PETTIT FCA,
The Incorporated Council of Law
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Considerable minutes experience is necessary. This will probably have been within a financial environment, but knowledge of our profession is less important than the ability to demonstrate effective communication skills.

We are more concerned to pay the salary appropriate to your track record than to quote a specific figure.

As you would expect from a leading firm of Chartered Accountants, other attractive benefits include private health insurance, pension scheme and excellent working environment.

If you're looking for a challenge and your experience meets our high standards, please send full cv including current salary to:

Rose Lane, Personnel Officer, Grant Thornton, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP.



Grant Thornton
Chartered Accountants

ENGINEERING DIRECTOR FOR MIRRLEES BLACKSTONE (STAMFORD) LTD

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Due to the impending retirement of the present Engineering Director, a replacement is required to fill this challenging position.

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Mr J A Locke
Head of Group Central Services
Hawker Siddeley Group PLC
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London SW1Y 6DG

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Responsibilities will include generating enquiries and successfully negotiating our services with small and medium sized businesses at Director level. The successful applicants will be highly motivated persons aged 25/40, able to perform against sales targets, interpret financial statements and evaluate commercial situations quickly. Full training will be given although previous experience in selling financial services would be an advantage.

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ENGLISH CHINA CLAYS P.L.C.

Chartered Secretary

A Chartered Secretary is required for the Group Secretariat, based in St. Austell, of English China Clays P.L.C., a public listed company with interests worldwide.

The successful candidate will be involved in a wide range of company secretarial duties and a good working knowledge of company law and secretarial practice is essential. The appointment should be of interest to Chartered Secretaries or other suitably qualified applicants in the range of 25-40 who have experience within a large industrial or commercial organisation. They must be capable of working with the minimum of supervision and be able to communicate effectively.

Salary will be within the range of £15,000-£20,000 depending on age and experience and benefits will be in line with those usually offered by a large company. There are excellent prospects for advancement.

Applicants are invited to write giving full career details to:-

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English China Clays P.L.C.,
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St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4DJ

All applicants will be treated in confidence.



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In order to fill this key role you should be of graduate status with strong technical management accounting skills and knowledge of computerised financial systems.

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Please apply in writing with full C.V. to: A. C. Stanton Esq. Financial Director, Guest Motors Ltd 377 High Street, West Bromwich B70 9QN

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They are looking for a well known controller who can help with their accounts and tax work.

HORIZONS

A guide to
career developmentTime to
spare for
a keen
ex-pat**ANN HILLS** looks at employment
openings for foreign workers in
Zimbabwe, often lured by a gentle, yet
adventurous and exotic lifestyle

"Thousands of people lived in the valley in mud huts about 700 years ago," explained Dr David Collett, a British archaeologist at Great Zimbabwe. The famous stone ruins, with giant enclosure and sophisticated building complex atop a hill, have perplexed generations of archaeologists. It has now been proved that this ancient site is African — not Eastern or European — and built by the ancestors of present-day Zimbabweans, who won independence eight years ago.

Pride in their own history and culture is crucial to a society which has striven to leap in a decade from illiteracy and subservience to being in charge of its own destiny — as politicians, professionals and peasant farmers. The Government of Zimbabwe is reluctant to employ ex-patriates unless there is no alternative, even to the extent of arguing in newspaper headlines whether it is better to send a surveyor to Britain for training, at a cost of about £100,000, rather than employ trainees in the country.

Openings exist through aid agencies and teaching schemes, for those who want fresh experiences, not high pay. Europeans who work in the land of gentle manners, of racial harmony and tropical landscapes, are seduced by the wildlife, the relaxed lifestyle and opportunities for leisure — from sailing to safaris. They find remnants of colonialism, surprisingly little bitterness and genuine friendliness.

The difficulties they become are centred on economic decline, resulting from lack of foreign currency. This is painfully obvious in the dearth of transport, and spare parts. A combine harvester may be worth more than the fields it reaps. Exporting cash is forbidden, so "farmers of European origin wonder if their children will continue to live in the family business. Ex-pats on short-term contracts are usually paid part of their salary abroad — not a topic for open conversation.

"We'd be on social security if we went home," said a museum curator and his wife, Doreen, from Sikeup, over supper in their house in Gweru. "We'd only be allowed to take £1,000 with us."

That said, a few hundred Britons are here in a variety of settings. David Collett, aged 34, living with his wife Joan



Paul Margetts demonstrating his bellows invention, made from oil drums

in the environs of Great Zimbabwe, is being helped in his task by a Welshman, Gwyn Hughes. "It would take 50 archaeologists 200 years to excavate the site, and there are only six in the entire country," says Mr Collett, adding that "the position of archaeology here is similar to Britain a century ago". Having made a major find — fragments of 16th century Ming porcelain, which suggest the site was still occupied 400 years ago — he wants to extend his contract for another two to three years. The opportunities for research and conservation are unrivalled amid these finest ruins in Africa, south of the Sahara.

Current border unrest calls for modern expertise in the form of British Army officers, who are training Zimbabwe and Mozambique forces. A handful of English doctors work here temporarily (one died, having contracted AIDS at Marondera Hospital). In the same town is the chaplain of the local public schools, the Rev. Ken Anderson who, with his wife Polly, extend hospitality and run a scheme called Schools' Partnership. The scheme employs a dozen British students, using their spare year teaching in Zimbabwe — where demand is so massive that school leavers with A-levels, but no teaching experience, are welcomed in government and mission schools. The Andersons, despite connections in Zimbabwe spread over decades, expect to return to Britain.

Voluntary Service Overseas has 50 graduate recruits — the vast majority of them in teaching. "We also want to send volunteers to train youngsters in building and clothing technology, and explore women's income — generating programmes," says field director, Paula Morris, whose previous post was in Indonesia.

A fisheries expert is taking up a VSO post with fishing cooperatives on Lake Kariba, near the Fisheries Research Station, where another Briton, Dr Digby Lewis, is being paid with Norwegian aid money to investigate potential cooperation between Zimbabwe and Zambia in sharing the resources of this enormous man-made lake.

VSO's best-known member is a blacksmith — Paul Margetts, aged 29, who works 20 miles outside Harare at Glen Forest Training Centre. Trained in Hereford, he's in "the best project near

Harare — a training centre for the very poor people from rural, mostly communal lands and resettlement areas." For a few weeks he ran a course in Tongogara, the largest Mozambique refugee camp, with 31,000 residents. "They were not starving, but had few clothes. You could get heartbreak photos," he said.

We talked in a cavernous metal shed where Paul's job is to raise the skills of local blacksmiths, develop a practical training syllabus, produce tools and innovative designs. He has won awards for his bellows, created by using industrial oil drums and pieces of piping.

"Attitudes change. Two years ago I came wanting to save the world. I worked terribly hard the first year, but the 16-hour days have passed — I'm enjoying myself," Paul says the post "fits him like a glove", and he intends to request an extra, third year here, before returning to Britain to farm. He lives on site in a house with electricity and running water. "Voluntary Service Overseas provided me with a motorbike so I can get out to restaurants, cinemas and the theatre.

"I don't think this is the place for politically-frustrated people", he adds, emphasizing the need to "keep an open mind and be sensitive to the policy of the country".

The British High Commissioner, Ramsey Melhuish, is respected for his personal delight in Zimbabwe, including canoeing safaris on the Zambezi. But career contracts don't extend to spouses, and his wife Stella has made her mark teaching typing every morning at Chikurubi, the women's prison. Stella, a secretary before marriage, has been diplomatic wife around the globe, from Washington to Warsaw. "I taught Pitmans in Kuwait and wanted to do something here." It took her eight months just to collect enough typewriters. Shortages are acute. "Our youngest son was working with the Cry Freedom crew and left office equipment behind."

Some of the prisoners are inside for the crime of "baby dumping" — literally dumping newborn babies whom they can't accept. Here they are given a chance to learn skills, taking Pitmans exams in shorthand and typewriting, which are marked in Britain.

BANKING & ACCOUNTANCY

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If you match these criteria apply in writing to Charles Ritchie at Michael Page Partnership, 29 St. Augustine's Parade, Bristol BS1 4UL.



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Group
Management Accountant

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The appointment of Group Management Accountant entails responsibility for a section of four part qualified accountants, producing financial and management information for six main Group Companies. Reporting to the Financial Controller, the successful candidate will participate in the development and maintenance of computerised accounting

systems, in addition to working with the main Board of Directors.

Suitable applicants will be qualified accountants, (A.C.A., A.C.M.A. or A.C.C.A.). This is an excellent entry point into an expanding organisation, with promotion prospects that extend throughout the Group.

Interested applicants should contact Gerald Whiting on 01-831 2000 or write to him, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. at Michael Page Partnership, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH, quoting reference 2091.



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Please write with full career details or telephone David Tod BSc FCA
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Sheriff's Star back on the Derby trail

... ..

The Masters champion explains why his putting is envied by all golfers



Mastery: Lyle (left) was off balance in 1985; the Nicklaus crouch (centre) and Lyle now, on his soles, elbow out, shoulders lined (Photos: Phil Sheldon)

Nicklaus helped Lyle stroke

By Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent

Sandy Lyle returns to action in the United States today with a putting record that is the envy of every player in the world.

He has already this season won \$603,000 (about £322,000), with the assistance of his victories in the US Masters, Phoenix Open and Greater Greensboro Open, and he will earn another \$240,000 if he captures the Panasonic Las Vegas International. If he succeeds then Lyle is virtually assured of becoming the first winner of more than \$1 million in a season in official US Tour money because the leading money-winner will receive a minimum \$207,000 bonus from Nabisco.

Lyle has played from tee to green this year as consistently as he has done in his 11 years as a professional.

Even so he would be the first to acknowledge that his touch on the greens has never been authoritative. He is leading the putting statistics on the American circuit with 1.7 putts per hole this season.

The clue to his improved putting stems from playing 36 holes with Jack Nicklaus during the Doral Open this year. In the never-ceasing search for an Utopian putting stroke, Lyle elected to utilize the Nicklaus routine.

"I was seeking a different feel or a different action," Lyle said. "I wanted to be more comfortable over the ball and, most importantly, I wanted to be more consistent on the greens. I was very impressed with the way Jack putted. I had always tended to stand very upright putting and used my arms. This created a very short follow-through. After watching Jack, I lowered my right elbow, almost hori-

zontally, and found my weight on the soles of my feet. In the past it was almost impossible to push me over with one finger I was so badly balanced.

"Now I'm very firm. I'm putting with my shoulders rather than my arms, or my hands, and I'm getting a longer extension with this pendulum-type action. My follow-through is some six inches longer which means that I'm getting a better roll on the ball. "There have been the odd occasion over the years when I've putted well but it was more by luck than making it work. Now I'm making it work, rather than waiting for it to happen, and, as Greg Norman said after the Masters, the hole does begin to look like a 44-gallon drum."

Putting, the game within a game, is a haunting demon, no matter how good the player, and even Severiano

Ballesteros and Tom Watson have become victims on the greens in recent times. Ballesteros has, though it should be said quietly, yet to yip a putt; Watson's game is still immaculate yet his touch with the putter appears to have deserted him since he was beaten by Ballesteros in that pulsating finish to the Open Championship at St Andrews in 1984. For instance, Watson took four putts — three from inside of three feet — a critical moment in last month's Masters.

Sam Torrance is the latest professional to admit to the affliction which, as Henry Longhurst wrote, leaves you "totally incapable of moving a piece of ironmongery to and fro without giving at the critical moment a convulsive twitch." Bobby Jones observed that "the ball apparently vanishes from sight just as the club is about to strike it."

SPORTS LETTERS

'Pirates' should join a club

From Mr John Legge

Sir, I sympathize greatly with Mr Haylock who wrote (April 28) of his frustration in getting a legitimate entry for the London Marathon and ran anyway only to be diverted off the course 100 metres from the finish. However, any system where 40,000 people are going to be turned down is sure to have its vehement critics whatever the criteria used for selection, a line has to be drawn somewhere and congestion is already stretching the organizers to the limit.

Mr Haylock is obviously fit if he can manage 26 miles (and somewhat more apparently) but does not belong to a running club. What a pity. Running

clubs are for Joe Public, their only requirement is an interest in running and a willingness to pay the usually very nominal yearly subscription.

If Mr Haylock, or any other runner, frustrated or otherwise, will write to me, I will send a list of local clubs and where and when they meet. You may never run the London Marathon but there is still plenty of enjoyment to be had running with your neighbours and friends.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN LEGGE (Chairman of Council, Road Runners Club),
21 Station Road,
Digswell,
Welwyn,
Hertfordshire.

Generous gesture

From Mr James D. Keir, QC

Sir, The report (April 25) marking Andy Ripley's retirement from first-class rugby included a graceful reference to his participation in this club's seven-a-side tournament on Sunday, after travelling to Cardiff on Saturday for his last first-class 15-a-side game.

I would like to say how much this club appreciated this generous gesture by him, and by Colleagues, the side in which he played, to support our tournament, which we have run for 31 years to help blind and handicapped children at the

Sunshine Home at East Grinstead.

I would also like to place on record our pleasure that Colleagues won our tournament and so, with Andy Ripley's help, put a new name on the trophy which Lady Astor of Hever presented for our tournament and which she handed to the winners, as she has on nearly all the years in which it has been staged.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES D. KEIR (President, East Grinstead RFC),
The Crossways,
1 High Street,
Dorsetland,
Sussex.

Willing to help

From Mr H. S. State

Sir, I was very interested to read of the efforts of a new consortium to raise money on charity race days (April 29).

About four years ago I phoned and spoke to the manager of the Cheltenham racecourse with a view to collecting for the Injured Jockeys' Fund during the meeting. He replied that as they already have a charity race day later in the year he did not think that it was necessary. My own opinion is that as the fences are

higher than normal, more jockeys are liable to be injured.

The manager may well think that having a Pearly King and Queen at the meeting might lower the tone. However, the jockeys should know that there are quite a lot of people willing to help in this reasonably dangerous sport because we realize that only a few can retire in comfort.

Sincerely,
HAROLD STATE (Pearly King of Battersea),
7 Ariel Lodge Road,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.

Trophies are clubs' lifeline

From Mr Paul Noble

Sir, While it is sad that the Football League's centenary festivities have not lived up to expectations I feel the attack by Mr G. Dickson (April 21) on the League (Littlewoods) Cup, Simod Cup and Sherpa Van Trophy is somewhat unmerited.

The League Cup is a major trophy and although only 28 years old, it is vigorously contested by all 92 League clubs.

As for the Freight Rover/Sherpa Van Trophy, my home town club, Wolverhampton Wanderers, have benefited greatly this season. On May 29 we will be at Wembley for the final against Burnley (the traditionalists note, two founder members). I predict a gate over 65,000 and with the valuable financial benefit plus the gate-money from the regional final against Notts County (over 18,000) I will next season be able to watch the club from all four corners of the ground, with the reopening of the North Bank and Waterloo Road stands.

The ordinary fan (does that mean a regular attendee?) is the one who appreciates the sponsors and savours of trophy great clubs, and also realizes that while these trophies are not FA Cups they can be life-savers.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL NOBLE,
75 Sherborne Road,
Bushbury,
Wolverhampton.

Cricketing answer

From Mr Robin H. Humphreys

Sir, I see that Clive Rice, captain and stalwart of South Africa's cricket team, is now eligible to play for, and is indeed captain of, Scotland's Benson and Hedges Cup side.

Perhaps Zola Budd should turn to cricket. Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HUMPHREYS,
33 Elmwood Road,
Selly Park,
Birmingham.

Shining example

From Miss M. E. Twist

Sir, Although agreeing with some of David Miller's comments on the need for reorganization of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (April 27), I am amazed that he should say: "Everyone was anxious to see the unrivalled leading performer, the irreproachable Steve Davis, get a walloping."

"Everyone" who comprises this extraordinary group? The WPBSA Alex Higgins's fans?

This statement, with its odious favour of jealousy and spite, gives an indication of much that is wrong nowadays with English sport, e.g. cricket.

M. E. TWIST.

1 Gardeners Cottages,
Farnham Lane,
Haslemere, Surrey.

Golf in USSR

From Mr John Massey Stewart

Sir, The first golf course in the Soviet Union is now being laid out, according to Tass (April 26). But an earlier golf course, albeit of some holes only, was created in 1960 for President Gherasimov on the shores of Siberia's Lake Baikal. Alas, as described in Simon Barnes's Diary (April 30), he never used it nor the villa alongside specially built for him due to the strident and acrimonious and (following the U2 incident) of his summit meeting in Paris with Khrushchev. The golf course had gone by the mid-1970s, though the villa still stands.

And before the Revolution, from the late 19th century at least, St Petersburg's British colony had a nine-hole course at Mourino, 12 miles outside the city. Many British families lived in summer and where the Grand Duke Cyril for one learned to play.

Going even further back, there is some evidence that golf clubs were taken to St Petersburg in the 18th century. Perhaps the game was played in Russia even earlier, possibly by some of the many Scottish soldiers, hearing of the 17th century. Maleskoff course on the steps, for instance? Yours faithfully,
JOHN MASSEY STEWART,
20 Hillway, N6.

Ignorance is bliss

From Mr Lynn Mallet

Sir, As a responsible parent I feel it incumbent upon me to know the whereabouts of my young, and hope that I have raised them well enough to ensure decency when enquiries are made as to their plans.

I was therefore pleased and thought no ill when my son informed me a short time ago that he had been invited on a cricket tour to Corfu. What I am now to make of this since I learn from Richard Cobb (Diary, April 21) that cricket is no longer played there? Where is my son going for a week with the Nonnuncquum Club? On second thoughts, perhaps it would be better if I didn't know.

Yours in perturbation,
LYNN MALLET,
25 St Mary's Grove, W4.

Gaelic de Gaulle

From Mr Augustus Young

Sir, If an Irish grandparent qualifies one to play soccer for the Republic of Ireland, General de Gaulle could have played. Historical talent scouts might be disappointed to know that Henry James, whose grandfather hailed from Antrim, does not quite qualify. The regulations are different in Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely,
AUGUSTUS YOUNG,
5b Belsize Park Gardens, NW3.

YACHTING

Warden-Owen in the right frame of mind

A win in the pre-regatta fleet race put Eddie Warden-Owen, of Britain, in good heart yesterday for the \$150,000 Grundig Cup match racing series which starts in St. Maxime, France, today (A Special Correspondent writes).

In four days of round-robins each of the 10 boats races the other nine, scoring a point for a win, and the top four go into the semi-finals on Wednesday.

Warden-Owen's first opponent is Jennifer Isler, wife of Peter, who is also skippering an American crew. Mrs Isler has a crew of five fellow-American women dinghy sailors and Anne Comber, a top French 470 crew.

Warden-Owen then has to sail against Rod Davis, another Californian but now resident in New Zealand, and the country's America's Cup challenge, the Australian, Peter Gilmour.

CYCLING

A planned £200,000 "invasion" of British professional cycling by a top French-based team is facing defeat before the riders have turned a pedal in competition (Peter Bryan writes).

Last week, Z-Peugeot revealed that its team for the Milk Race, led by the former race winner, Joey McLaughlin, would be co-sponsored by Halfords. But, even before a formal announcement of Halfords' involvement in Paris last week, British teams sponsored, hearing of the link, had registered their criticism of the Anglo-French tie-up.

Now, following pressure from some of the major British team sponsors, it is understood that the Professional Cycling Association has been asked to ban the Z-Peugeot-Halfords squad from competing in the Michelin series of televised city centre races.

EVENING RACING

Cheltenham

Going: good to soft.
5.15 (2m ch) 1, Sweet Rascal (Dr P Jones, 100-30); 2, Kyrat Sam (11-4); 3, May Day (11-4); 4, Pen Mont (5-2); 5, St. M. C. (11-4); 6, St. M. C. (11-4); 7, St. M. C. (11-4); 8, St. M. C. (11-4); 9, St. M. C. (11-4); 10, St. M. C. (11-4); 11, St. M. C. (11-4); 12, St. M. C. (11-4); 13, St. M. C. (11-4); 14, St. M. C. (11-4); 15, St. M. C. (11-4); 16, St. M. C. (11-4); 17, St. M. C. (11-4); 18, St. M. C. (11-4); 19, St. M. C. (11-4); 20, St. M. C. (11-4); 21, St. M. C. (11-4); 22, St. M. C. (11-4); 23, St. M. C. (11-4); 24, St. M. C. (11-4); 25, St. M. C. (11-4); 26, St. M. C. (11-4); 27, St. M. C. (11-4); 28, St. M. C. (11-4); 29, St. M. C. (11-4); 30, St. M. C. (11-4); 31, St. M. C. (11-4); 32, St. M. C. (11-4); 33, St. M. C. (11-4); 34, St. M. C. (11-4); 35, St. M. C. (11-4); 36, St. M. C. (11-4); 37, St. M. C. (11-4); 38, St. M. C. (11-4); 39, St. M. C. (11-4); 40, St. M. C. (11-4); 41, St. M. C. (11-4); 42, St. M. C. (11-4); 43, St. M. C. (11-4); 44, St. M. C. (11-4); 45, St. M. C. 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European ban on English clubs is likely to continue

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The prospect of English clubs being readmitted to Europe next season is rapidly diminishing. Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, stated yesterday that the government is not prepared to offer the reassurances that are being sought by UEFA if the ban imposed three years ago is to be lifted.

The potential candidates (Luton Town and Manchester United in the UEFA Cup and Wimbledon in the Cup Winners' Cup) can blame the League and their fellow clubs for blocking their path. It may not be cleared even if the behaviour of England's supporters during the European championship is impeccable.

Jacques Georges, the president of UEFA who is to meet Moynihan in nine days, has insisted that the government must accept responsibility for clubs that perform abroad. "If not, it is very likely that the countries in which the teams want to play will not accept it either."

The Minister will carry "some good and some bad" information into the discussion which is to take place at Wembley after the FA Cup final. The good, that "great progress has been made" in the war against domestic hooliganism, is regarded by UEFA as encouraging but irrelevant.

The bad, which reveals loopholes in security measures, will prompt Moynihan to confirm that the government is still not yet satisfied that all the necessary preventative steps have been taken. "Many clubs have made determined efforts," he said yesterday. "But some have been very slow."

"In February last year the Football Trust agreed to provide grants for third and fourth division clubs to install close circuit television. Three have not even applied for it, although I urged them to do so earlier this year, and eight

others have been sitting on offers of grants for six months. One was offered a grant a year ago and is still seeking quotes from companies to install the system."

Moynihan is equally concerned about the failure to implement a reciprocal membership scheme, whereby the card holders of one club would be permitted to visit other grounds.

"A report was commissioned by the League and

Supporters released

Budapest (Reuters) - Seven British football supporters arrested during a post-match brawl in a Budapest disco last week have been released, three on bail, the Hungarian news agency, MTI, said yesterday.

MTI said charges had been dropped against four of the supporters because of lack of evidence. All seven, arrested after last week's Hungary-England match, had already returned to Britain, it added.

A spokesman for the British Embassy in Budapest said he understood they were released on Tuesday night.

AMSTERDAM: Undercover Dutch anti-hooligan police will help West German detectives weed out potential troublemakers among PSV-Eindhoven supporters at the European Cup final against Benfica in Stuttgart on May 25 (Reuters reports).

produced last July. It recommended that the scheme should be the long term aim. We hoped it would be in place on the first Saturday of next season, but the League hasn't even talked about it, let alone put it into operation."

Without the assistance of the Minister, the case for the immediate return of English clubs to the three European competitions is defenceless.

Foreign players restriction will benefit British clubs

By Stuart Jones

David Will, the lone Briton responsible for restricting the number of foreign players who may represent clubs in European competitions, believes UEFA's new rule will improve the domestic game. Although he appreciates the immediate effect on the top clubs might be detrimental, he feels the outcome should eventually be beneficial.

Will, a Scottish lawyer and a member of the governing body's executive committee, he joined UEFA's legal representatives at St Andrews on Monday. The meeting was held to find a solution to the

problem which will be posed when players are given freedom of movement within the European Community in 1991.

If UEFA had not taken action, it was felt that the richest clubs in Europe would then have monopolized all the titles on offer at home and abroad. There was nothing to prevent Juventus, for instance, from acquiring a side that included the world's greatest talent and not a single Italian.

"It is better to protect the future development of young footballers in each country

"Your government has to show that it is more than capable of giving support," Georges said. "It must also show that it wants to do so."

"The best thing that Moynihan can say is that we'll do everything to control hooliganism, to make sure that known troublemakers will not travel to the Continent and the police will continue to infiltrate hooligan groups. There must also be no alcohol on ferries, buses and trains."

Yet the president of UEFA concedes that, even if every precaution is taken, the risk of trouble can never fully be eliminated. "The source of the problems lie in our society which, unfortunately, has a violent and aggressive nature. Along the way football has become contaminated. Hooligans are crazy. You cannot predict what they are going to do and that is why it is so difficult to tackle them. Although we can never be certain of controlling them, we have to aim for that. Without your government's help, we won't even get close."

He believes that the European championship will not be scarred by disturbances but the cost has been grotesque.

"The biggest disappointment is that the stadium in West Germany have to look like bunkers, fortresses surrounded by police and other security measures, so that the games can take place. But it is very important that we can show that European football can be staged without violent trouble. It is the first chance we have had since the Heysel Stadium tragedy in 1985."

For English clubs, it could also be the last.

HP football

Fulham, the third division football club, are to offer their supporters the opportunity to purchase season tickets for next season by monthly instalments.

The warrior's medals still shine Lillee is fresh for the test

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

Imagine Frank Sinatra doing a surprise turn on New Faces and you have some conception of what is billed for Northampton today. Traditionally one of county cricket's dour venues, the County Ground is to be given over to something which mixes glamour, nostalgia and curiosity. Dennis Lillee is about to make his championship debut.

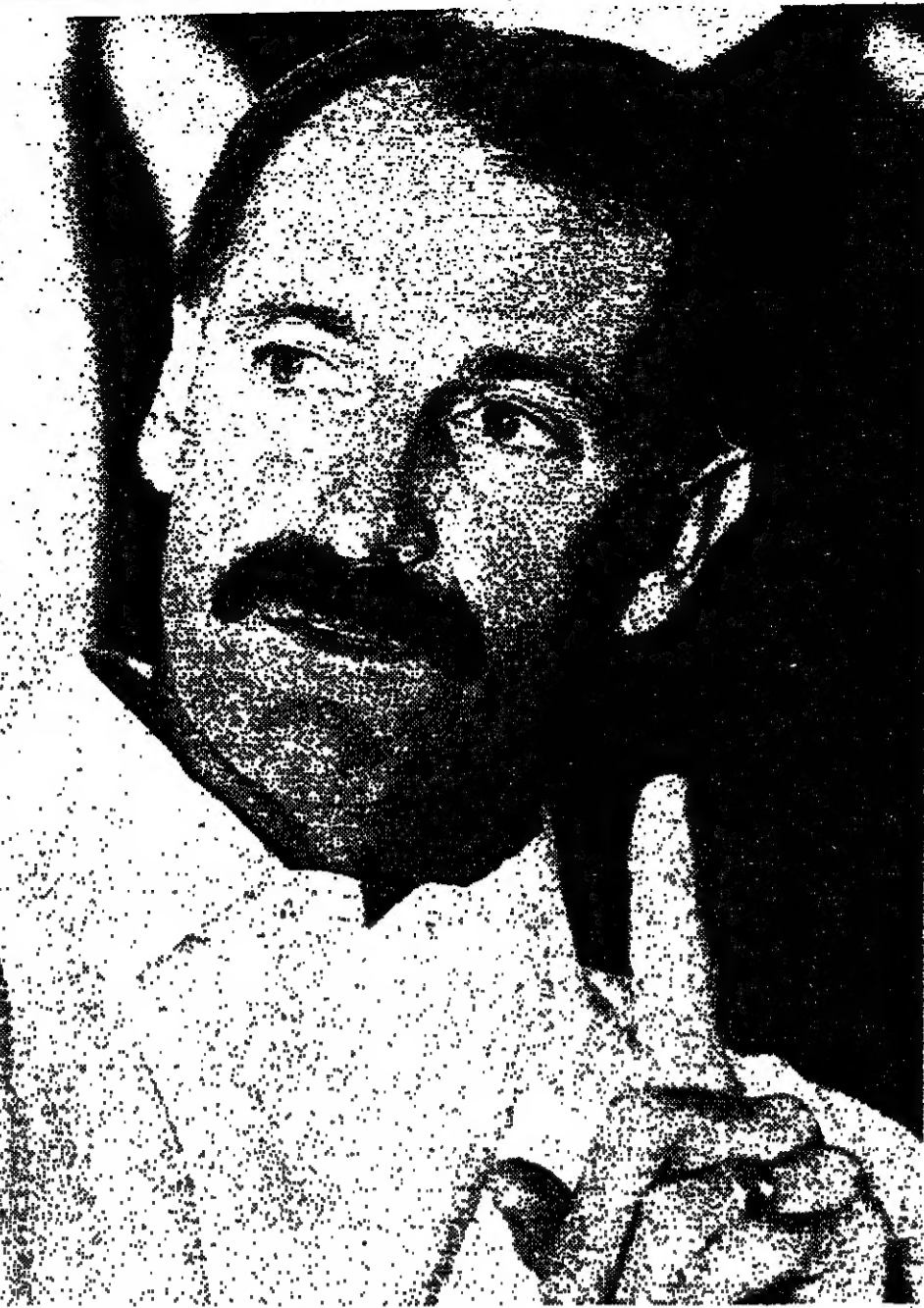
The old warrior may be going on 39 but his medals still shine. He looks distinctly greyer than when I last saw him bowl, shortly before his official retirement four years ago, yet the figure is still lithe, the eyes still flash and the spirit still burns.

Lillee will play against Gloucestershire today, weather and a slight chest infection permitting. The salient question, both for him and Northamptonshire, is why? The club, after all, has a very respectable overseas fast bowler in Winston Davis while Lillee would seem to be about 15 years past the point of needing to prove himself in the punishing routine of the county game.

The club, unsurprisingly, found it easier to answer. In short, they imagined they might end up without an import after West Indies had chosen their touring team, so they drew up a short-list of three replacements. Lillee was at the top. "We never thought he would come, but he was positive from the start," Steve Coverdale, the manager, said.

The deal, which includes backing from Gesteiner, took four months to put together and the club's chief concern now is to stress that it is not a publicity stunt.

"We have had an incredible local reaction and a lot of new members. But the decision was taken on playing grounds," Coverdale said. "What the cynics forget is that 18 of our players are 25 or under. A season with Dennis Lillee



Making a point: Dennis Lillee, on the eve of his scheduled county championship debut.

could do them all enormous good."

Lillee, who has agreed to play 10 championship matches and up to 15 one-day games, at first explained his decision in a straightforwardly pragmatic way. "I got talked into playing again in Australia," he said. Later, he revealed that Allan Border, Australia's captain, had been the one doing the persuading but the romantic notion of adding to his 70 Tests and 355 wickets is not, apparently, on the agenda.

He denies he is doing it for the money. "I am not a

millionaire but I won't struggle for the rest of my life. I don't need to do this, I am doing it because I want to. Some ex-players think I am mad but I don't care about that. I am apprehensive, certainly. I was very nervous when I started playing club cricket again back home."

Lillee has left his wife, Helen, in charge of his diverse business activities while he puts his reputation on the line one last time. Interestingly, he says he was shocked by the on-field conduct during his Australian season with Tasmania. "It was far worse than I have ever known it."

and adds: "Blokes were having a go all the time but it wasn't until I told a batsman where to go that the umpires stepped in to report someone. I largely blame them for the current behaviour problem. They are the ones in charge. If they warn offenders quickly enough they will soon clear it up."

Someone asked him if this meant he had mellowed. "Oh, probably not," he replied, obviously a shade concerned. He probably hasn't, either, but I suspect he will still be as cordial off the field as he could be crabby on it.

Mile film will still be made

By John Goodbody

A dramatized series on the first sub-four-minute mile, is to go ahead, despite protests about the script from Sir Roger Bannister, Chris Chataway and Chris Brasher, the three athletes involved in the race, run at Oxford 34 years ago today.

The original script of the film series, a co-production between the BBC and three Australian broadcasting companies, was last month criticized by Brasher as being "the most awful, inaccurate, inept and clichéd I have ever read".

"We are seen as part of a daunted elite with upper-class voices, who hunt hares on horseback and drink champagne with pretty girls before races."

The series has been written by David Williamson, who scripted the film *Gallipoli*. It is intended to dramatize perhaps the most celebrated moment of British sport in the 1950s, in the same way that *Chariots of Fire* brought the story of Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell, sprinters at the 1924 Olympics, to the screen.

Brasher and Chataway helped pace Bannister, now Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, to become the first man to break the athletics barrier, with a time of 3 minutes 59.4 seconds.

Further versions of the script have been submitted to the BBC for their comments and the BBC is understood to have noted their views.

Olympic contender fails his Badminton examination

By Jenny McArthur

The Whitbread championships at Badminton, which begin today, are the main selection trial for the Seoul Olympics. Fitness and soundness are the two qualities which Henrietta Knight, the chairman of the selectors, and her committee will be looking for this weekend.

The cross-country course in Seoul is built on a hard, clay-like base with only a thin covering of grass. This, together with the steepchase course, which is on sand, would quickly expose any soundness problems. Five horses failed to pass yesterday's veterinary inspection, one of which, Jimmy Cricket, to be ridden by Diana Clapham, was in the reckoning for the Olympics after his third place at Burghley last year.

Chief among the Olympic contenders competing this week are Virginia Leng, the reigning World and European champion, and Ian Stark, the European and World team gold medal winner and the current holder of the Whitbread trophy after his win in Sir Watling in 1986 - last year's event was cancelled because the ground was waterlogged.

Stark knows exactly what to expect of the Edinburgh Woolen Mill's Sir Watling, his partner at the 1987 European Championships and the 1986 World Championships. But Glen Burnie, an impressive, big striding horse will be having his first major test since Burghley in 1986.

While Stark and Leng are seeking a second Badminton win Green is aiming for a record seventh with SR International's Mins Lincoln, the winner of Chatsworth last October and of Crookham in March. The only other rider to

have won more than three times is Captain Mark Phillips - he gained his fourth title in 1981 - but he is missing this year's event because of a leg injury.

Hunt, the runner-up in 1986 on Piglet and Powell are both having a first Badminton outing with their horses but have first class credentials. Hunt's Aloof helped win the team gold medal at last year's European Championship. The Irishman won Bramham last year and was fifth at Burghley, over an unusually demanding course.

In the absence of New Zealand's Olympic gold medal winner Mark Todd and the United States dual world champion, Bruce Davidson, the main foreign opposition will come from Todd's compatriot, Tinks Pottinger.

The British Olympic team will have one advantage. After completing Saturday's cross-country course - which Colonel Frank Weldon, the designer, has made more difficult than usual - they are unlikely to be intimidated by anything they encounter in Seoul.

Woosnam's chance to atone

By Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent

The premature return of Ken Brown to the European scene poses an additional problem for Ian Woosnam as the Epsom Grand Prix begins on the St Pierre course in Chepstow today.

Brown tees off against the Swedish player, Magnus Persson, and if successful he will move through to a second-round encounter against Woosnam, the No. 1 seed.

It would be an intriguing contest with Woosnam desperate to rediscover the form which made him the leading player in the world in 1987 and Brown equally determined to once more prove his prowess in Europe.

This time 12 months ago Woosnam met with an early defeat when Sam Torrance clinically moved past him 3 and 2. But on that occasion the 5R 4 1/2 Welshman had no reason to be too alarmed.

By then he had launched an astonishing year which was to turn him into a millionaire. He had won both the Jersey

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	576	3	10	376	4
2	417	4	11	468	5
3	435	4	12	545	5
4	420	4	13	219	3
5	462	4	14	521	4
6	165	3	15	375	4
7	372	4	16	454	4
8	308	4	17	412	4
9	473	4	18	237	3
Out 3,331 36			In 3,542 36		
Total parage 6,873			Par 71		

and Madrid Opens and by Chepstow he had already accrued £66,000 in official European earnings.

This year Woosnam has missed four successive half-way cuts in the United States, including a disappointing Masters debut, and his official prize winnings amount to little more than the £1,000 he earned for a down-the-field finish in the Majorcan Open. Woosnam said: "There is only way to prove to all the whisperers that I'm no one-year wonder and that is by winning. And I will win again - soon."

Brown, too, eventually had a disappointing first Masters and on returning from Augusta he altered his schedule in order to launch a more

END COLUMN

Lapping up the pace lift of today

By John Blunden

The scene is Aintree, not the Aintree of Red Rum fame, but the motor racing circuit that used to run alongside it. The year is 1959, and Jack Brabham is out there in front, winning the British Grand Prix with his Cooper-Climax and on his way to his first world championship.

Other Coopers, BRMs, Aston Martins and Lotus-Climaxes are in hot pursuit, but suddenly the familiar scene changes. There is an interloper, a standard road-going 1988 Audi-Quattro which threads its way through the pack, using the power of its turbo-charged engine and the extra grip from four-wheel drive and the latest tyre to steal a surprise victory.

This is the scenario of the creative 40-second television commercial which Shell Oils is using to promote its Gemol brand - a clever piece of filmmaking in which footage from Aintree has been amalgamated with new material shot at Snetterton (outdoors "dressed" to look like Aintree) with authentic but new historic Formula One cars.

The message - how much the performance of cars and multi-grade oils has changed over the years - comes across well, even though it is stretching things a bit to suggest that the high-performance car of today would actually have won the 1959 race. It would not, but it would not have been last, either.

You have to move to Silverstone to get things into perspective. A time of 1min 55sec is good for the Quattro around the three-mile circuit on which this year's British Grand Prix, sponsored by Shell Oils, takes place on July 18. This "time" equates to around 1min 58sec on the



Schekter caused accident "old" course which was used until 1973, when Woodcote Corner (subsequently slowed by chicanes and most recently by a tight S-bend) was virtually "fast in fifth" and perilously quick, as Jody Scheckter proved that when he lost control of his McLaren and initiated a multi-car accident.

In 1950, Silverstone had hosted the very first race of the Formula One world championship. It was won by Dr Giuseppe Farina, whose Alfa Romeo started on pole position. But had the 1988 Quattro been in the race, it might well have been won when he lost control of his McLaren and initiated a multi-car accident.

By 1954, the Audi would have started from the third row, by 1958 from the fifth row, and by 1963 it would have been last on the grid, but by 1988 it would be in the lead. It would almost certainly have seen it into the first corner with a comfortable lead.

These days, the gap between a winning grand prix car and a typical high performance road car is wider than ever. Whereas in 1950, a Formula One Alfa Romeo would lap Silverstone about 12 m.p.h. quicker than a Jaguar XK120 competing in a production touring car race, last July Nigel Mansell's fastest race lap of 153 m.p.h. in his Williams-Ford was 47 m.p.h. quicker than the touring car record set by Wia Percy in his Ford Sierra RS Cosworth later the same day, and about 63 m.p.h. quicker than a Quattro straight out of the showroom would have averaged.

Nevertheless, today's high performance road cars stand in a manner which the racing drivers of yesterday could only dream about, and they are getting better all the time. Silverstone runs a pair of Jaguars as part of its emergency fleet which follows the race for the first lap in case of problems. They are not letting on just how fast these cars are, but more than once they have had to be eased back in order to avoid getting embroiled in the race... just as in that television advertisement.

UEFA's ploy might be to revive Britain side

By Dennis Sigay and Roddy Forsyth

The UEFA decision to limit the number of "foreign" players to represent clubs in the three European competitions may be a ploy to revive a Great Britain side.

This viewpoint came yesterday from Terry Venables, the manager of Tottenham Hotspur, whose experience also includes importing foreign players for Barcelona. "If we had a Great Britain team that would counter the decision wouldn't it?" Venables asked. "It would just mean people having to give up a bit of power." Venables said people abroad saw England, Scotland and Wales as different countries. "They can't understand our different view."

Although Graham Kelly, the Football League secretary,

regarded the move as "a very severe blow to our major clubs," he accepted the aim was not to strike a blow at British clubs but to cut down on leagues like Italy's gaining the cream of the talent.

A spokesman at Lancaster Gate said: "We are not bowling with protest. We are four separate associations and, if it stays that way, that is how we will be treated."

Jim Farry, the Scottish League secretary, said: "It appears that British clubs will have to adapt like clubs in Spain and Italy who have domestic quota regulations."

Amsterdam (Reuters) - Guss Hiddink, the coach of PSV Eindhoven, the European Cup finalists, ridiculed the rule.

Pearce turns attention to World Cup

Stuart Pearce, the Nottingham Forest captain, has switched his sights from the European championship to the World Cup as his international target after his withdrawal from England's squad for West Germany.

After being told that the ankle surgery he underwent last weekend ruled him out of Bobby Robson's squad, Pearce said he was first looking to be 100 per cent fit for next season. He said: "Of course it was a big disappointment to learn that I could not be included on the trip but let's face it, there was no certainty that I would have actually played."

Graham Roberts, the Rangers captain, will be allowed to leave the club following a disagreement last weekend.

Amateur handicap

Golfers with a handicap of one have had to be balloted out of the Amateur Championship for the first time, following a near-record entry of 391.

The final field for the event, at Royal Portcaw and Pyle and Kenfig from May 30 to June 4, is 288 and three one-handicap players are among those balloted out.

Cash charity

Two most recent Wimbledon men's champions, Pat Cash and Boris Becker, will play free for charity in the Wising Well Tennis Classic on June 13 at the David Lloyd Racquet Club at Heston. The event should raise £100,000 for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Lescaur: will miss tour

Twist of fate Jean-Patrick Lescaur, France's Rugby Union stand-off half, undergoes a knee operation this Sunday. He will be sidelined for five months.

Slalom chosen

The slalom event will be included in the canoe programme for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

Number up

John Pendlebury, the Halifax Rugby League Club loose forward, could be disciplined for playing in the Wembley final last weekend without a numbered jersey.

Opie appeal

Lisa Opie, the British women's squash rackets champion and world No. 2, is today to challenge a £475 fine imposed on her by the Women's Squash Rackets Association for alleged swearing and bad behaviour during the Bovis Homes Invitation semi-finals at Welwyn in February.

Prize purse

The Woolwich Masters bowls tournament will have world-record prize-money of £28,000 this year. The tournament will be held in Worthing from May 27 to 29.